

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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|-----------------------|---|
| Action: | Do Pass |
| Vote: | 8 - 0 - 0 |
| Yeas: | Boone, Esquivel, Freeman, Komp, Matthews, Riley, Weidner, Cowan |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Exc.: | 0 |
| Prepared By: | David Molina, Administrator |
| Meeting Dates: | 5/19 |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows the Oregon National Guard's highest ranking officer, The Adjutant General, to hold, but not exceed, the rank of Lieutenant General.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Command and control
- Emerging and national trend
- The need to keep The Adjutant General one rank below the Chief of the National Guard Bureau

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, the Oregon National Guard's (ORNG) highest ranking commissioned officer holds the rank of Major General (MG) and is appointed by the Governor as the state's The Adjutant General (TAG). The appointment is made for a four-year term or until the appointee relieved by reason of resignation, withdrawal of federal resignation or for cause to be determined by a court-martial. Appointees must hold the rank of Lieutenant Colonel or higher and have completed six year's service in the ORNG as a federally-recognized officer (ORS 396.150). Established under Title 10 and Title 32 of the U.S. Code, the National Guard serves as part of the first line defense of the U.S. The National Guard is divided up into units stationed in each of the 50 states and U.S. territories and operates under their respective state governor or territorial TAG. Each TAG reports directly to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB), who is the senior uniformed National Guard officer responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, programs and plans affecting more than half a million Army and Air National Guard personnel, including civilian personnel.

In 2008, the 110th U.S. Congress passed the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008* which elevated the National Guard to a joint function of the Department of Defense (DoD) and elevated in rank the CNGB from Lieutenant General (LTG) to General (GEN) similar to the Chiefs of the other service branches. On November 17, 2008, DoD announced promotion of General Craig R. McKinley from LTG to the National Guard's first four-star general. DoD asserts the move signifies the vital role the CNGB has in bridging the state and federal components of the U.S. government and the active and Reserve components of the military.

Senate Bill 5 is a state recognition, not federal recognition in the rank of the TAG. The Oregon TAG is a state employee, principal J-level executive manager series, and only compensated in the rank of LTG when on state active-duty orders at the order of the Governor. The TAG is limited from wearing the rank of LTG outside the state because, due to lack of federal recognition, the rank only applies in the state. Five states in the union have implemented similar legislation: Alaska, Georgia, Texas, Maryland and Nebraska.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Oregon's TAG, MG Raymond F. Rees was first appointed in 1987 and subsequently reappointed two consecutive times (August 1994-March 1999; July 2005-present). MG Rees has also served as Acting Chief and Vice Chief, CNGB (September 1992-July 1994; March 1999-May 2003). MG Rees was previously Chief of Staff of the United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado (May 2003-June 2005).

5/21/2009 10:55:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.