

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bates, Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Robert Shook, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/16, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows appointment of Adjutant General in grade of lieutenant general, and limits promotion of Adjutant General to grade not exceeding lieutenant general.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Oregon National Guard leadership
- Definition of Adjutant General, and relationship to other Service Chiefs
- Role of the Oregon National Guard

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In the United States, the Adjutant Generals are the chief military officers of the National Guard units of the separate states, reflecting that each of the 50 states retains partial sovereignty, including the right to maintain military forces. The Army and Air National Guard are state units that can be called to federal duty in case of national emergency. Congress recently passed legislation that increased the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to the rank of four-star general. Senate Bill 5 limits the Head of the Oregon National Guard to lieutenant general, one star below the Chief of the U.S. National Guard Bureau.

Historically, the National Guard is the oldest branch of the American armed services, enduring over 370 years and originating in the colonial militias. Therefore it is appropriate that the Chief of the National Guard be ranked similarly to the chiefs of the other branches of the military, both at the state and federal levels.

The action of promoting Oregon's Adjutant General to lieutenant general serves to strengthen the concept that the federal and state forces are co-equal partners in providing support to the state and nation. Senate Bill 5 allows promotion of Major General Raymond F. Rees, current Head of the Oregon National Guard, to the rank of Lieutenant General.