

Enrolled
Senate Concurrent Resolution 204

Sponsored by Senator HANSELL; Senator CLOSE, Representative JENSON (Pre-session filed.)

Whereas Major General Raymond F. Rees is a native son of Oregon, having been born and raised in Umatilla County; and

Whereas after graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1966, Major General Rees completed Airborne and Ranger training, preparing himself for a tour in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division; and

Whereas upon leaving active duty Major General Rees joined the Oregon National Guard, where he commanded at every level, serving both within Oregon and across the country; and

Whereas Major General Rees served at the national level as the Director of the Army National Guard, the Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau and Acting Chief of the National Guard Bureau, as well as serving as Chief of Staff of the United States Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado; and

Whereas Major General Rees pioneered efforts both locally and nationally for the National Guard, shaping policy decisions that helped to increase readiness and competence of servicemembers and led to the National Guard's timely response to wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and to Hurricane Katrina; and

Whereas with the National Guard Bureau, Major General Rees helped develop the National Guard State Partnership Program, building lasting relationships between the National Guard and countries around the world; and

Whereas Major General Rees helped establish the Oregon National Guard as a leader in providing vital services to returning troops by implementing the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program and facilitating modernization efforts across Oregon to provide servicemembers of the National Guard with the best equipment and facilities; and

Whereas Major General Rees was responsible for opening and improving readiness centers throughout Oregon and helped extend a 50-year commitment for the Portland Air Base to ensure the future of the Air Guard in keeping the skies safe along the west coast; and

Whereas Major General Rees retired from his position as Adjutant General of this state with 17 years of service to four different Governors and the longest service period as Adjutant General during wartime, and as the longest serving Adjutant General in the United States; and

Whereas the dedicated service and extensive accomplishments of Major General Rees have been characterized by competence, confidence, courage and commitment; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, honor and commend Major General Raymond F. Rees for his distinguished career, his outstanding leadership and his dedication to serving his state and country.

Adopted by Senate February 5, 2014

Robert Taylor, Secretary of Senate

Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House February 18, 2014

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House