



Representative Bobby Levy

Serving Umatilla, Union & Wallowa Counties

Chair Grayber, Vice Chair Lewis, Vice Chair Tran and other members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Bobby Levy, state representative for House District 58. I am testifying today to express my support for House Bill 2305.

For the service members in the Oregon Air Force and Army National Guard being activated for state active duty requires a great sacrifice within all aspects of their lives. They must put their regular job on hold and leave their homes to help the citizens of Oregon. Often, they do not know how long they are going to be activated for and lose money when compared to what they would be making at their civilian job. It is the least we can do is help ease their burden and financial stress by making them exempt to state income tax while they are selflessly serving the state of Oregon. I urge the committee to vote yes on House Bill 2305.

State Active Duty (SAD) Pay scale is less than the Army Pay scale. Which means that while a soldier is on SAD orders, they are making less money than they would be on Federal active-duty orders.

National Guard soldiers in Eastern Oregon are most often having to performing their SAD duties on the West Side of the state leaving them hours away from home. Severely limiting their ability to see their pets or families on the rare days they get off.

Service members on federal active-duty orders and are required to leave the state are already exempt from state income tax.

Our Service members are tired after two years of almost none stop SAD missions in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a chance to show our apparition and understanding of the sacrificing they have to make while on SAD.

Rep. Bobby Levy, HD 58