

Submitter: Julie Bivens

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency
Management, Federal and World Affairs

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB667

Thank you for noting my support of SB667 Defend the Guard Act.

Our National Guard is meant to serve inside our nation, to help in natural disasters and other emergencies, however in 2020 our National Guard Chinook helicopters were in the Middle East and not available to fight the massive wildfires in Oregon.

Our Oregon National Guard has been illegally deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Kuwait, and Jordan. This should never happen without a Declaration of War by Congress, which has not happened since 1941.

This bill does not restrict Oregon National Guard from helping in disasters, enforcing federal law, or fulfilling federally mandated duties. But does prevent them from being sent unconstitutionally to combat in the absence of a declaration of war by Congress. Please pass SB 667 and protect our National Guard so that they can protect our nation.