
SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO AUTHORIZE AND
APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO ALLOW ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES
RESERVE COMPONENT TO ACCESS THE TRICARE PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, Army National Guard members are fulfilling
2 commitments in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, and the Sinai, with
3 members of the Hawaii Army National Guard having recently served
4 in Iraq and Afghanistan; and

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6 WHEREAS, presently almost half of all service personnel
7 deployed in Iraq are members of the reserve components of the
8 United States armed forces, including members of the National
9 Guard and Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps Reserves; and

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11 WHEREAS, under present law, for every ninety day period on
12 active duty, a member of the reserve component receives one year
13 of cost-share TRICARE health benefits if the member agrees to
14 serve that year with a reserve component; and

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16 WHEREAS, while well-intentioned, this measure does not go
17 far enough to solve the problem of medical readiness that exists
18 in the reserve component and can affect the mobilization and
19 deployment of intact reserve component units; now, therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006,
23 that the Congress of the United States is urged to authorize and
24 appropriate funds to allow all members of the reserve component
25 to access TRICARE health benefit coverage on a cost-share basis,
26 without restrictions; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States
30 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
31 Representatives, the Secretary of Defense, members of Hawaii's
32 congressional delegation, the Governor, and the Adjutant
33 General.
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