

SCR 47/ SR 28

Measure Title:

PROCLAIMING 2009 AS THE YEAR OF THE ARMY
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

Report Title:

2009 Year of the Army Noncommissioned Officer Corps

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Thursday, February 26, 2009

TIME 1:15 P.M.

Conference Room --- 229

State Capitol

415 South Britannia

RE:SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 47 PROCLAIMING 2009 as the year of the Army Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United States Army

Chair Espero, Chairman, and members of the committee

Re: Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 47 - **STRONGLY SUPPORT**

Written testimony from Benjamin R. Mixon, LTG Commander, US Army, Pacific

We are honored that a Concurrent resolution in recognizing the Noncommissioned Officer Corps (NCO) of the US Army has been placed before the Hawaii State Legislators for consideration. We strongly support this Proclamation and recognition of our soldiers.

The Secretary of the Army has designated 2009 as "*The Year of the NCO*" to honor their more than 200 years of service to the Army and the American people. The United States Army's Noncommissioned Officer Corps has distinguished itself as the world's most accomplished group of military professionals.

Today's NCO Operates autonomously, with confidence and competence. We empower and trust our NCOs like no other Army in the World. In fact, many of the world's Armies are looking at our NCO Corps as a model for their own as they recognize the vital roles NCO's play in our Army.

Our NCOs lead the way in education, in training and in discipline. They share their strength of character with every Soldier they lead, every officer they serve and every civilian they support.

The NCOs are the keepers of the Army standards. From the recruiting station to basic training to combat zones; civil affairs to medicine to logistics; natural disaster assistance to graveside attendance: whether Active, Guard or Reserve, our NCOs take the lead.

We are honored that the State Legislators of Hawaii have put forward Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 47 to proclaim, 2009 as the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the US Army. Thank you for consideration and service to Hawaii and our country.



Benjamin R. Mixon, LTG
Commander, US Army, Pacific

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 47
PROCLAIMING 2009 AS THE YEAR OF THE ARMY NONCOMMISSIONED
OFFICER CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

PRESENTATION TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT G. F. LEE
ADJUTANT GENERAL
February 26, 2009

Chair Espero and Committee Members:

I am Major General Robert G. F. Lee, State Adjutant General. I am testifying on Senate Concurrent Resolution 47.

The State Department of Defense strongly supports the passage of this resolution. As with any military unit or organization, success of mission accomplishment lies not only with the officer corps but with a strong noncommissioned officer corps.

Yes, the noncommissioned officer corps is the backbone of any military organization. These noncommissioned officers provide the day to day supervision in unit training readiness, deployment, and combat operations. They are with their soldiers, sentinels of the United States.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony on this measure.