

MAR 10 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING MEMBERS OF HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT
H.R. 208, THE NATIONAL GUARDSMEN AND RESERVISTS PARITY FOR
PATRIOTS ACT, AND S. 644, THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE
RETIRED PAY EQUITY ACT OF 2009.

1 WHEREAS, when the Reserve and National Guard Retirement Pay
2 System was established in 1948, members of the National Guard
3 and Active Reserve were presumed to have full-time civilian
4 careers subject to extended military service only in the
5 unlikely event of a national mobilization; and
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7 WHEREAS, this retirement system was intended to supplement
8 a normal civilian career promotion and retirement program; and
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10 WHEREAS, Since September 11, 2001, approximately seven
11 hundred thousand members of the National Guard and Active
12 Reserve have been activated for military duty, including nearly
13 two hundred thousand who have been deployed for duty more than
14 once; and
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16 WHEREAS, reserve mission increases and a smaller force
17 structure mean that guard members and reservists are devoting a
18 far greater share of their civilian working lives to military
19 service than originally envisioned by the creators of the and
20 National Guard Retirement Pay System; and
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22 WHEREAS, many of these service members now are being mobi-
23 lized one year out of every three, and this dramatically changes
24 the working and income situations for these guard members and
25 reservists and their employers and families; and
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27 WHEREAS, frequent activations remove guard members and
28 reservists from their civilian careers, often costing them
29 promotions and sometimes their jobs, which directly reduces
30 their civilian retirement pay; and
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32 WHEREAS, the government has an obligation to help offset
33 these service-imposed losses by updating the reserve retirement



1 system to reflect realities of today's service in the National
2 Guard or Reserve; and

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4 WHEREAS, The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008
5 took a first step by reducing the reserve retirement age from
6 age sixty by three months for every ninety days of active duty
7 performed since January 28, 2008; however, it provided no credit
8 for the hundreds of thousands of service members who were called
9 up for duty between September 11, 2001, and January 28, 2005,
10 during the height of deployments to missions in Iraq and
11 Afghanistan; and

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13 WHEREAS, H.R. 208, the National Guardsmen and Reservists
14 Parity for Patriots Act, and S. 644, the National Guard and
15 Reserve Retired Pay Equity Act of 2009, would make the 2008
16 change retroactive to September 11, 2001; now therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010,
20 that the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation are urged
21 to support H.R. 208, the National Guardsmen and Reservists
22 Parity for Patriots Act, and S. 644, the National Guard and
23 Reserve Retired Pay Equity Act of 2009, which would include
24 service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the
25 determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-
26 regular service retired pay for members of the National Guard
27 and Active Reserve; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's
31 congressional delegation.

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34 OFFERED BY: Will Espero

