

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 84

Recognizing the sacrifices made by members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces, expressing concern about their safety and security, and urging the Secretary of Defense to take immediate steps to ensure that the reserve components are provided with the same equipment as the regular components.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 21, 2003

Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. KERRY) submitted the following concurrent resolution;
which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the sacrifices made by members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces, expressing concern about their safety and security, and urging the Secretary of Defense to take immediate steps to ensure that the reserve components are provided with the same equipment as the regular components.

Whereas, on September 11, 2001, the National Guard and Reserve responded to the horrific terrorist attacks on the United States with professionalism and courage, rescued the injured, saved lives in New York City, provided protection to the Pentagon, and flew combat air patrols over Washington, D.C., and other major cities;

Whereas, on September 14, 2001, in Executive Order 13223, President Bush proclaimed a national emergency, and exercised his authority under section 12302 of title 10, United States Code, to allow him to call up as many as 1,000,000 National Guard and Reserve members to active duty for up to two years;

Whereas more than 300,000 National Guard and Reserve members have been called to active duty under this Executive Order, serving on the front lines by fighting terrorists in Africa and Asia and keeping the peace in Afghanistan, the Balkans, and Iraq;

Whereas the National Guard and Reserve are taking on unprecedented challenges;

Whereas 64 percent of National Guard and Reserve members have been called up for active duty during at least one of the seven major mobilizations since 1990;

Whereas 7,800 National Guard and Reserve members have been mobilized more than once to serve in the Global War on Terrorism, and members serve between 60 and 120 days per year;

Whereas 42,000 of the approximately 160,000 United States troops currently in Iraq are members of the National Guard and Reserve;

Whereas the National Guard and Reserve are being deployed to Iraq without critical protective equipment, such as body armor, carbines, laser sights, night vision goggles, desert boots, Camel Back water carriers, aviation holsters, aviation protective masks, radios, and desert camouflage uniforms;

Whereas many National Guard and Reserve units are using older and outdated equipment;

Whereas, due to equipment shortages throughout the National Guard and Reserve, units are being stripped of equipment in favor of units being deployed, leaving other units without equipment with which to train;

Whereas at least one National Guard and Reserve unit asked hospitals in the United States to donate medical supplies to cover its shortages; and

Whereas a poll taken in Iraq by Stars & Stripes reveals that 48 percent of National Guard and Reserve troops consider their morale “low” or “very low”, compared with only 15 percent reporting “high” or “very high” morale: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes the sacrifices made by the mem-
4 bers in the regular and reserve components of the
5 Armed Forces;

6 (2) expresses concern about their safety and se-
7 curity; and

8 (3) urges the Secretary of Defense to take im-
9 mediate steps to ensure that the National Guard
10 and Reserves are provided with the same equipment
11 as the regular components.

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