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LRB097 13897 KXB 58477 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State National Guard was established under
3 Title 10 and Title 32 of the U.S. Code and serves as part of the
4 first-line of defense for the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, The reserve components of the United States armed
6 forces are military organizations whose members generally
7 perform a minimum of 39 days of military duty per-year and who
8 supplement the active duty military when necessary; and

9 WHEREAS, The purpose of each reserve component is to
10 provide trained units and qualified persons available for
11 active duty in the armed forces, in time of war or national
12 emergency, and at such other times as the national security may
13 require, to fill the needs of the armed forces whenever, and
14 during and after the period needed to procure and train
15 additional units and qualified persons to achieve the planned
16 mobilization when more units and persons are needed than are in
17 the regular components; and

18 WHEREAS, There are Guard and Reserve members who have
19 served for 20 years of qualified service for retirement without
20 being called for active duty service during their military
21 career, and at age 60, they are eligible for reserved military
22 retirement pay, government health care, and other benefits of

1 service including some veterans' benefits, but due to current
2 federal statute they are denied full standing as a "veteran" of
3 the armed forces; and

4 WHEREAS, There are numerous Guard and Reserve members whose
5 position is to train, prepare, and support the armed forces
6 that are called to active duty, and these members are ready for
7 deployment, but based on their assignment jobs are not called
8 upon to be deployed; and

9 WHEREAS, These Guard and Reserve members have served and
10 deserve the status of "veteran" of the armed forces; and

11 WHEREAS, S.491 and H.R. 1025, currently pending in the
12 United States Congress, would authorize National Guard and
13 Reserve members entitled to Reserves retirement pay the honor
14 of claiming "Veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States"
15 status; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we urge the United States Congress to pass S.491 and H.R. 1025
19 to provide National Guard and Reserve members entitled to
20 Reserves retirement pay the honor of claiming veterans status;
21 and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 presented to the majority and minority leaders of the United
3 States Senate, the Speaker and minority leader of the United
4 States House of Representatives, and to each member of the
5 Illinois Congressional delegation.