
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 968 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, BAKER, BARRAR, TALLMAN, LUCAS, PAYNE,
RAPP, AUMENT, MILLARD, MAJOR, READSHAW, WATSON, SWANGER,
MILNE, MURT, HARHART, HEFFLEY, ROCK, GINGRICH, SCHLEGEL
CULVER AND STEVENSON, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President of the United States, the Congress and the
2 Pentagon to reconsider any planned reduction in the current
3 military officer strength.

4 WHEREAS, The Preamble to the Constitution of the United
5 States reads in part, "We the People of the United

6 States...to...provide for the common defence...and secure the
7 blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity..."; and

8 WHEREAS, Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution of the
9 United States reads in part, "The Congress shall have power...to
10 raise and support armies...to provide and maintain a navy...";

11 and

12 WHEREAS, The United States has seen that war or aggression
13 comes not when forces of freedom are strong, but when they are
14 weak and tempt the forces of terror and tyranny; and

15 WHEREAS, The cost of liberty must never be waived, but must
16 be met with eternal vigilance; and

17 WHEREAS, Recently, the Pentagon announced that thousands of

1 soldiers, many serving as commanding officers in Afghanistan,
2 have been or will be notified in the coming weeks that their
3 service to the country is no longer needed; and

4 WHEREAS, Officials from the Department of Defense have stated
5 that the reductions are the result of mandatory spending cuts
6 imposed by sequestration and part of a major plan to reduce the
7 number of United States soldiers from 520,000 to 450,000; and

8 WHEREAS, The men and women of the United States Armed Forces
9 who risk their lives while they and their families make great
10 sacrifices will now be faced with news that their services are
11 no longer needed, and in many cases they will return home to
12 their families and have no jobs; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
14 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President of the United
15 States, the Congress and the Pentagon to immediately reconsider
16 the plan to lay off or reduce the current military officer
17 strength of the United States Armed Forces; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
19 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Pentagon to examine other
20 options that do not include the forced separation of current
21 military officers, such as natural separations like retirement;
22 and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the President of the United States and the
24 Pentagon consider the potential danger and impact to morale the
25 forced separations may have on our current military officers who
26 have sacrificed so much for their country; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
28 the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of
29 each house of Congress, to each member of Congress from
30 Pennsylvania and to the Pentagon.