

**RESOLUTION URGING SUPPORT OF
NATIONAL GUARD**

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Marda Dillree

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO REVERSE PLANNED NATIONAL GUARD FUNDING CUTS AND RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS OF FULLY FUNDING THE NATIONAL GUARD.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

WHEREAS the National Guard has been in existence for over 360 years and enjoys a proud tradition;

WHEREAS members of the National Guard continually train to be the most ready reserve component in the world;

WHEREAS the National Guard is constitutionally recognized, plays both a federal and a state role, and fills three missions: to provide global security, including defense against weapons of mass destruction; to provide emergency response; and to provide community support;

WHEREAS the National Guard, fully resourced, will be better able to honor its commitment to respond to federal and state emergencies;

WHEREAS Total Force Policy requires that all active and reserve military organizations of the United States be poised to respond and serve side by side in military operations around the world;

WHEREAS the National Guard maintains a high state of readiness at a fraction of the cost of maintaining similar units in the active forces as demonstrated, in the Army, by the operation of a National Guard artillery battery costing 17 percent of the funds required to operate the same United States Army battery;

WHEREAS in the case of the Army, the Army National Guard of the United States maintains more than half of available United States Army combat forces and 34 percent of the United States Army's total strength on less than ten percent of the US Army budget;

WHEREAS in the case of the Army, the greatest cuts in federal spending and manning among the components are directed against the Army National Guard;

WHEREAS the Utah National Guard operations and maintenance budget currently is 20 percent less than last year; and

WHEREAS the National Guard cost efficiency is the solution to the budget problem, and the National Guard should not be cut in federal funding or manning:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, urge the United States Congress to reverse the planned cuts in the National Guard and recognize the clear cost economies and benefits to the nation and to the states of fully funding and further relying upon the National Guard.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Utah National Guard, and members of Utah's Congressional Delegation.