

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY REPRESENTATIVES LORUSSO AND HENRY BURNS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate the United States Army Reserve for reaching its one hundredth year of committed service to America.

WHEREAS, on April 23, 1908, the nation's leaders recognized that much up-to-date medical talent resided in the civilian sector and as such created the first reservoir of trained officers in a reserve status, known as the Medical Reserve Corps; and

WHEREAS, today, over fifty-nine percent of the Army's medical assets lie within the United States Army Reserve; and

WHEREAS, in 1916, congress passed the National Defense Act, creating the Officers' Reserve Corps, the Enlisted Reserve Corps, and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, later renamed the Organized Reserve Corps (ORC), all forerunners of the United States Army Reserve; and

WHEREAS, in both world wars, United States Army Reserve soldiers answered the call of duty by making up twenty-nine percent of the Army's total number of officers with eighty-nine thousand five hundred reserve officers mobilized in World War I and two hundred thousand members mobilized in World War II; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, ORC was renamed the United States Army Reserve and was divided into three reserve units, including a ready reserve, a standby reserve, and a retired reserve, with each unit participating in twenty-four training days and up to seventeen days of annual training; and

WHEREAS, since that time, the United States Army Reserve has been an integral part of other conflicts, with more than seventy units deployed to the Korean peninsula, and more than eighty-four thousand soldiers deployed to Operation Desert Shield/Storm, as well

as those who served in Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle, and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, the role of the United States Army Reserve changed over time as it moved from a strategic reserve to an operational force which provides resources and training to first-responder organizations across the nation, training soldiers, implementing national objectives, keeping the Army mobile, and enabling the Army to work more efficiently with fewer resources; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Reserve makes up twenty percent of the Army's organized units, but provides one-half of the Army's combat support and one-fourth of its mobilization base expansion capabilities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby celebrate the one hundredth birthday of the United States Army Reserve, honor its service to America, and wish the Army Reserve another century of continued support to our soldiers and citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve, and Commanding General, United States Army Reserve Command.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE