



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Pentagon has ordered the Illinois National Guard to prepare plans to eliminate as many as 1,000 positions, which is 10% of the State's Guard positions; and

WHEREAS, The following National Guard units could be affected by this reduction: Company F of the 106th Aviation Battalion, based at the Greater Peoria Regional Airport, a Chinook helicopter company which recently served in Iraq and which has about 75 Guard members; the Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Facility, also a part of the 106th Aviation Battalion, which has about 300 Guard members; and Company B and Detachment 2, based in Bartonville, which provide security for the 35th Infantry Division based in Kansas and have about 160 Guard members; and

WHEREAS, These National Guard units serve not only the nation in times of war or national emergencies; they also provide security and safety to residents of the Greater Peoria area; and without the presence of these units, the ability to respond to a terrorist threat, national disaster, or community emergency will be significantly diminished; and

WHEREAS, These National Guard units played a major role in rescue and support operations during the Great Flood of 1993, a service for which the Greater Peoria community will always be grateful; the units also have assisted the community in many other ways; and

WHEREAS, If these National Guard units are eliminated, the economic stability of the Greater Peoria area, as well as its safety and security, will be adversely affected; these units are comprised of more than 500 soldiers; and

WHEREAS, While some eliminated National Guard positions

1 might be replaced, it is uncertain how many such positions  
2 might be replaced and when that might happen; in the meantime,  
3 the adverse impact on the area's safety, security, and economic  
4 stability would continue; therefore, be it

5       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7 we strongly urge the Pentagon to reconsider its proposed cuts  
8 in Illinois National Guard positions; and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be  
10 forwarded to President George W. Bush, Secretary of Defense  
11 Donald Rumsfeld, and each member of the Illinois Congressional  
12 delegation.