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**RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

**Maintain Coast Guard Reserve Funded End Strength  
Resolution No. 16-12**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Coast Guard has served our nation as one of the five armed forces and has participated in every armed conflict since 1790; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, as this nation's "Maritime First Responder," the Coast Guard serves as a crucial response element of the Department of Homeland Security; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard Reserve has been activated for 12 national emergencies since 1973, and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard Reserve supports the Coast Guard in defending the U.S. against terrorist attacks, which includes protecting 361 ports, 95,000 miles of coast line, and 3.5 million square miles of territorial and economic zone waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Selected Reserves have been significantly reduced from 12,000 authorized persons to currently 7,000, and while authorized 7,000 is only funded for a force of 8,100 persons, and

**WHEREAS**, there is an emerging mission for the Coast Guard Reserve in relation to cybersecurity and protection of the nation's infrastructure that is accessible by terrorist from waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, the attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>, Hurricane Katrina, and the Deep Water Oil Spill have emphasized and proven the need for a strong homeland defense and large Coast Guard Reserve to support both ongoing and surge missions, and

**WHEREAS**, the Coast Guard leadership has said it could not have performed adequately without the Coast Guard Reserve since September 11<sup>th</sup> for these missions;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Reserve Officers Association of the United States, chartered by Congress urge the Congress to increase the Coast Guard Reserve funding level to support manning for the Coast Guard Reserve in order in order that the Coast Guard can adequately meet its congressionally mandated missions of protecting our ports and waterways, Maritime Security, and operational readiness for future disaster responses.

Renewed: 14 September 2016

Adopted by the National Conference, 10 August 2013

Source: ROA Coast Guard Affairs Committee, 9 August 2013