

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Family Readiness Parity for the Reserve Components Resolution No. 17-15

WHEREAS, upon mobilization and deployment the needs of reserve service members and their families are similar to those of an active component service member during deployment; and

WHEREAS, the House Armed Services Committee acknowledged that “the reserve component has changed from a strategic reserve to an operational reserve, fully engaged in the global war on terror;” and

WHEREAS, the Commission on the National Guard and Reserve also recognized that given the unique demands that mobilization and deployment places on reserve service members and their families deficiencies exist in the support mechanisms for them; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense, despite initial lack of funds and emphasis, has responded to these needs with the creation of a robust Family Readiness System embracing all the military services that address mobility and deployment assistance, relocation assistance, personal financial management, spouse education and career services, family life education, emergency family assistance, domestic abuse prevention and response, as well as other critically needed family services; and

WHEREAS, the needs of transitioning Reserve service members returning to civilian life continue but programs to assist them may have substantial backlogs; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program expanding requirements and increasing responsibilities for supporting families which is threatened by lack of funding,

WHEREAS, the Reserve Officers Association of the United States applauds the President, Congress and the Department of Defense on the substantial advances in family assistance programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Reserve Officers Association of the United States urge the President to propose and the Congress to provide appropriations to sustain dynamic family readiness programs for the National Guard and Reserve that will address all levels of their support to national defense, and that the Transition Assistance Program and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program be funded and staffed at such levels to ensure it can meet the needs of all National Guard and Reserve service members transitioning to civilian life.

Renewed by the National Convention, 2 February 2011 as 11-08, 26 July 2014 as 14-09, and 23 July 2017
Adopted by the National Convention, 28 June 2008 as 08-12
Source: Department of the District of Columbia, 7 May 2008