

**'Gray-Area' Interim Reserve Retirement Pay  
(Pay and Allowances)  
Resolution 19-08**

**WHEREAS**, retired Guardsmen and Reservists are considered "gray area" retirees if they have completed 20 "qualifying" years for retirement but have not reached age 60 (or their 58th birthday if eligible for early retirement); and

**WHEREAS**, a gray-area retiree must apply for retirement pay before reaching their approved retirement age; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018 the Navy and Air Force Reserve had retirement pay application backlogs of up to a year; and

**WHEREAS**, members eligible for Reserve retirement must request retired pay from their military department and each service has different application standards; and

**WHEREAS**, once the branch of service processes the application it is sent to the Department of Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) for an audit of qualifying service before processing any retirement payments; and

**WHEREAS**, the DFAS audit can take 90 days or more during which time the servicemember will not receive any payment of benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, Reserve Component servicemembers have two strikes against them because they often wait 30 years or more to reach the retirement age for payment and then they wait 90 days or more to receive retirement pay; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past the Office of Personnel Management had a similar backlog of civilian retirement pay that was resolved with implementation of an interim pay process;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that ROA, chartered by Congress, urge Congress to add an interim payment capability for the Reserve Component to be paid while they wait for completion of any pay or compensation audit to include the Defense Finance and Accounting Service or Department of Veterans Affairs; and

**BE IT FURTHERMORE RESOLVED**, that the Department of Defense should establish one website and one set of application standards for all Reserve Component members to apply for retirement pay.

Adopted by the National Convention, 29 Sep 2019

Source: Department of the NCR, 20 Jun 2019