

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 300

By McCormick

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the 105th anniversary of the United States Army Reserve and honor its tradition of commitment, dedication, and service to America.

WHEREAS, in 1908, the nation's leaders knew that the most up-to-date medical experience resided in the civilian sector and created the first reservoir of trained officers in a reserve status, known as the Medical Reserve Corps; and

WHEREAS, today, over twenty percent of the United States Army's assets lie within the 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 named the Organized Reserve Corps (ORC), all of which are forerunners of the current Army Reserve; and

WHEREAS, in both World Wars, Army Reserve soldiers answer the call of duty. In World War I, 89,500 reserve officers were mobilized, and during World War II, 200,000 members of the ORC participated, with reserve officers providing twenty-nine percent of the Army's Officers; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, legislation renamed the ORC as the Army Reserve and then divided it into three reserves, a Ready Reserve, a Standby Reserve, and a Retired Reserve. Legislation also provided that reserve units have twenty-four training days and up to seventeen days of annual training; and

WHEREAS, the Army Reserve has been an integral part of numerous conflicts; more than seventy Army Reserve units were deployed to the Korean Peninsula, well over 120,000 soldiers have provided combat support and combat service support during Operation Desert

Shield/Storm, and others offered similar support in Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Currently over 12,000 Army Reserve soldiers are deployed around the world; and

WHEREAS, the role of the Army Reserve has changed over time, moving from a Strategic Reserve to an Operation Force; the Army Reserve provides resources and training to first-responder organizations across the nation, trains soldiers, implements national objectives, keeps the Army mobile, and enables the Army to do more with constrained resources; and

WHEREAS, the Army Reserve makes up twenty percent of the Army's organized units, while providing one half of the Army's combat support and one-fourth of its mobilization base expansion capabilities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commemorate the 105th anniversary of the United States Army Reserve, honor its continuing service to America, and offer the Army Reserve our thanks on behalf of the citizens of the State of Tennessee for a job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.