



# T H E M I L I T A R Y C O A L I T I O N

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May 4, 2011

The Honorable Tim Walz  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Pryor  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Latham  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Pryor, Congressman Walz and Congressman Latham:

The Military Coalition (TMC), a consortium of uniformed services and veterans associations representing more than 5.5 million current and former servicemembers and their families and survivors, is writing in support of your bills, the **S.491, Honor America's Guard-Reserve Retirees Act, 2011** and **HR 1025**, to authorize veteran status in Title 38 for National Guard and Reserve members of the Armed Forces who are entitled to a non-regular retirement under Chapter 1223 of 10 USC and who were never called to active federal service during their careers other than active duty for training orders.

It is paradoxical that some Reserve Component members now serving in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) on duty other than mobilization orders as is often done for federal reserve members, or carrying out a national security mission to protect the integrity of our Southwestern border (on Title 32 orders) may one day qualify for a military pension from the Reserve Component but **will not qualify as Veterans of our Armed Forces.**

As hard as that notion may be to understand or accept, the intent of this cost-neutral bill is to honor the service and sacrifice of our career Reserve Component members who were never called up to active duty.

The bill does not authorize any new or unearned Veterans' benefits to any member of the National Guard or Reserves.

The Military Coalition appreciates your leadership on this important issue and stands ready to aid your efforts to pass this legislation in the 112th Congress.

Sincerely,  
The Military Coalition

Signatures attached

Air Force Association  
Air Force Sergeants Association  
Air Force Women Officers Associated  
AMVETS (American Veterans)  
Army Aviation Association of America  
Association of Military Surgeons of the United States  
Association of the United States Army  
Association of the United States Navy  
Chief Warrant Officer and Warrant Officer Association, U.S. Coast Guard  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc.  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States  
Fleet Reserve Association  
Gold Star Wives  
Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America  
Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America  
Marine Corps League  
Marine Corps Reserve Association  
Military Chaplains Association of the United States of America  
Military Officers Association of America  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
National Guard Association of the United States  
National Military Family Association  
Naval Enlisted Reserve Association  
Non Commissioned Officers Association  
Reserve Enlisted Association of the United States  
Reserve Officers Association  
Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces  
The Retired Enlisted Association  
United States Army Warrant Officers Association  
United States Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Vietnam Veterans of America

