



## DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

**STEVE BESHEAR**  
Governor

**OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL**  
100 Minuteman Parkway  
BNGC — EOC Building  
Frankfort, KY 40601

**EDWARD W. TONINI**  
Major General, KYNG  
The Adjutant General

May 5, 2010

The Honorable Ike Skelton  
Chairman  
House Armed Services Committee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Howard P. 'Buck' McKeon  
Ranking Member  
House Armed Services Committee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Susan Davis  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Military Personnel  
House Armed Services Committee  
2340 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Wilson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Military Personnel  
House Armed Services Committee  
2340 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Skelton, Ranking Member McKeon, Chairman Davis and Ranking Member Wilson:

It is my great pleasure to ask your support for Congressman Geoff Davis' provision to provide equity to members of the Reserve Component for the calculation of disability retirement pay for service members who are wounded in action, for inclusion in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011.

Current law creates an inequity for National Guard and Reserve Component service members because a reservist may only get credit for the time he actually spends in uniform in the computation of his disability retirement pay. For instance, a service member who has spent thirteen years in the National Guard or Reserve may have only four years of service once his or her duty days are calculated. As a result, he or she is likely to receive significantly less disability retirement pay than his Active Component counterpart – even if they receive identical wounds from the same firefight in Iraq or Afghanistan.

(continued)

Congressman Geoff Davis NDAA 2011 Provision Support Request  
May 5, 2010  
Page 2

Congressman Davis' provision would eliminate this inequity between Active and Reserve Component personnel. Any National Guard or Reserve service member or veteran who earned the Purple Heart for wounds incurred in battle and was medically retired as a result of that action would have his or her disability retirement pay calculated based on the total number of years served in the armed services. As you may know, this provision was included in the NDAA passed by the House in Fiscal Years 2007 and 2009. A 2010 Congressional Budget Office score indicates the provision would cost less than \$500,000 in FY 2011 and \$11 million over ten years.

On behalf of the men and women of the Kentucky National Guard, I strongly request your support for this long overdue provision in support of the Reserve Component.

Thank you for your service and consideration of our request. If you have any questions, please contact me at 502-607-1558.

Sincerely,



EDWARD W. TONINI  
Major General, KYNG  
The Adjutant General