
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4027

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Winsley, Dorn, Franklin, Jones, Kremen, Wineberry,
Sheldon and Sprenkle

Read first time 01/15/92. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The recent conflict in the Persian Gulf has brought to our
9 attention once again the valuable contribution of our servicemen and
10 servicewomen; and

11 WHEREAS, Citizens who choose to make a career of military service
12 and who have served their country for at least twenty years receive
13 military retirement pay based on the longevity of their service; and

14 WHEREAS, Veterans who have a service-connected disability have made
15 a very personal sacrifice for their country and receive compensation in
16 proportion to the severity of their disabilities; and

1 WHEREAS, Under current federal law, those individuals who have a
2 service-connected disability and who have chosen to devote twenty or
3 more years of service to the military are prohibited from receiving
4 concurrently their full retirement pay and their full disability
5 compensation. Instead these individuals may receive their retirement
6 pay or their disability compensation, or they must waive an amount of
7 retirement pay equal to the amount of their disability compensation;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, This is an inequitable situation which effectively
10 requires disabled military retirees to pay for their own disability
11 compensation benefits out of their retirement pay earned through years
12 of dedicated service; and

13 WHEREAS, There are a number of measures that have been introduced
14 in the United States Congress which would reduce or eliminate this
15 inequity by allowing disabled military retirees to receive concurrently
16 their retirement pay and their disability compensation benefits;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
18 States Congress amend existing federal law to permit career military
19 retirees with service-connected disabilities to receive concurrently
20 their full retirement pay and their full disability compensation.

21 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
22 transmitted to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
23 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
24 House of Representatives, and to each member of Congress from the State
25 of Washington.