
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8013

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Winsley, M. Rasmussen and Oke

Read first time 02/09/93. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, 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

17 WHEREAS, Under current federal law, those individuals who have a
18 service-connected disability and who have chosen to devote twenty or
19 more years of service to the military are prohibited from receiving
20 concurrently their full retirement pay and their full disability
21 compensation. Instead these individuals may receive their retirement

1 pay or their disability compensation, or they must waive an amount of
2 retirement pay equal to the amount of their disability compensation;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, This is an inequitable situation which effectively
5 requires disabled military retirees to pay for their own disability
6 compensation benefits out of their retirement pay earned through years
7 of dedicated service; and

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

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

16 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
17 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United
18 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
19 House of Representatives, and to each member of Congress from the State
20 of Washington.

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