
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8008

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Hobbs, Roach, Conway, Miloscia, Hatfield, King, Bailey, Keiser, Billig, Padden, Mullet, Ericksen, Frockt, and Fraser

1 TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO GENERAL FRANK J.
5 GRASS, CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU:

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

9 WHEREAS, The opportunity exists to add a second Stryker Brigade
10 Combat Team to the Army National Guard's force structure, and to
11 locate this Brigade on the west coast; and

12 WHEREAS, There are a variety of practical and strategic reasons
13 which make the 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team a logical candidate
14 for conversion; and

15 WHEREAS, A Stryker Brigade Combat Team stationed on the west
16 coast will strengthen our nation's defense by maintaining Stryker
17 capacity focused on the Asia-Pacific Region, enhance Regular
18 Army/Army National Guard partnership, and provide a key domestic
19 response capability; and

20 WHEREAS, Transitioning the 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team to a
21 Stryker Brigade Combat Team strategically places Strykers in
22 Washington, Oregon, and California, and will save taxpayers thirty

1 million dollars over the course of an army force generation cycle;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The 81st Armored Brigade Combat Team is headquartered at
4 Camp Murray, Washington, located just across the street from Joint
5 Base Lewis-McChord, which is the United States Army's Stryker Center
6 of Excellence and is within convoy range of the Yakima Training
7 Center; and

8 WHEREAS, The extensive Stryker infrastructure available at Joint
9 Base Lewis-McChord and the Yakima Training Center represents a great
10 advantage in leveraging shared resources; and

11 WHEREAS, Furthermore, this places the Stryker Brigade Combat Team
12 equipment sets brought back from overseas contingencies into
13 mission-ready use, and available for overseas and domestic
14 contingency response; and

15 WHEREAS, Strykers will also give the governors of Washington,
16 Oregon, and California a fast, durable, and effective asset to save
17 lives, protect property, maintain peace, and ensure the continuity of
18 government in times of emergency;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that as you
20 consider force structure balance in this era of constrained
21 resources, coupled with the tactical, strategic, and domestic needs
22 of our nation, you will support the conversion of the 81st Armored
23 Brigade Combat Team of the Washington National Guard into a Stryker
24 Brigade Combat Team with brigade units stationed in Washington,
25 Oregon, and California.

26 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
27 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United
28 States, General Frank J. Grass, Chief of the National Guard Bureau,
29 the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House
30 of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
31 Washington.

--- END ---