



Legislative Alert #113-4: SUPPORT H.R. 690 and S. 240, the Reserve Retirement Deployment Correction Act
MILITARY

[Take Action!](#)

Issue Background: As most throughout the military and veteran communities know, veterans of Active Duty service are able to receive their retirement benefits immediately upon their retirement, while Reservists and National Guardsmen are required to wait until they turn 60 before they are eligible to receive such benefits. Current law allows for a three month reduction in the waiting time a Reservist or National Guardsmen is required to wait for retirement benefits, in the special circumstance that that Reservist or National Guardsmen is activated for a 90 day period, over a one year time span. In 2008, legislation was approved, the Fiscal Year 2009 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), to make retirement benefits for Guard members more equitable with that of their Active Duty counterparts, by crediting them for time spent on deployments with earlier receipt of retirement pay. However, an unintended technicality in its implementation allowed the Department of Defense (DOD) to exclude some periods of service that overlap two fiscal years from counting toward retirement benefits.

Action Required: Contact your Representatives and Senators and urge them to support and cosponsor H.R. 690, introduced by Representative Tom Latham (R-IA-03), and S. 240, introduced by Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), the Reserve Retirement Deployment Credit Correction Acts of 2013, which would amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the per-fiscal year calculation of days of certain Active Duty service or other active service used to reduce the minimum age at which a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces may retire for non-regular service.

Details (To Be Put Into Letter):

Throughout the last decade's worth of simultaneous war fighting, the Reserve Component have become a critical element to the United States' over-seas contingency operations, making up close to 45% of deployed personnel since 9/11. Unfortunately, many of our Reservists and Guardsmen augmenting today's battlefield requirements have their deployments overlap the fiscal year, which in-turn adversely affects their ability to get retirement credit for deployments they served. This is due to an unintended technicality in the implementation of the FY09 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which allowed the Department of Defense (DOD) to exclude some periods of service that overlap two fiscal years from counting toward retirement benefits.

H.R. 690 and S. 240 continues our commitment to serve our nation's Veterans, by correcting the

law's technicality and allowing the 90 day period of Active Duty service, which allows our Reservist and National Guardsmen to collect early retirement points, to fall within a two fiscal year time span. The bills also seek to clarify the existing law to ensure that Reserve Component members receive the retirement credit for all time spent on active duty over the course of their career. Correcting the current law's shortcomings, and allowing our Nation's Reservist and National Guardsmen to collect the early retirement points they so deserve is outstanding policy, and helps to reflect the changes to the nature of Reserve Component duty that has evolved over the last decade's worth of simultaneous war fighting.

Take Action: Click the "Take Action" link at the top of the Alert to immediately email and/or write to your Senators and Representatives. This is the quickest and most effective method of expressing your views to Congress. You can also write and/or e-mail the 'Details' section or edit as you desire for a more personalized communication . Also, contact friends and family and urge them to use the Contact Congress feature on AUSN's website as well. Please direct any questions concerning this issue to our Director of Legislation, Anthony Wallis, at 703-548-5800 or at Anthony.Wallis@ausn.org.