

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the National Guard is the oldest component of the Armed Forces of the United States, founded on December 13, 1636, as the militia of the Massachusetts Bay Colony;

Whereas the citizen soldiers and airmen of the National Guard have fought in every major American conflict, from the colonial wars of the 17th century to the ongoing operations against the al Qaeda terrorist network and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan that harbored those terrorists;

Whereas the National Guard traditionally has served with distinction as America's first line of defense against the consequences of natural and man-made disasters within the United States;

Whereas the men and women of the National Guard serve as an indispensable part of critical United States military operations around the world, including patrolling the no-fly zones over Iraq and peacekeeping in the Balkans;

Whereas headquarters elements of National Guard combat divisions lead the United States' participation in the multinational Stabilization Force in Bosnia;

Whereas the men and women of the National Guard were among the first to respond to the terrorist atrocities of

September 11, 2001, including Air National Guard fighter crews who scrambled on that day and Army National Guard personnel who deployed to assist with rescue and recovery efforts in New York and Virginia;

Whereas the men and women of the National Guard, in keeping with the National Guard's historic mission of homeland defense, are flying combat air patrols to protect the safety of American airspace and are performing critical security roles in their State capacity at airports and other important sites around the Nation; and

Whereas the citizen soldiers and airmen of the National Guard serve a critical role in protecting the freedom of American citizens and the American ideals of justice, liberty, and freedom, both at home and abroad : Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
 2 *concurring)*, That, on December 13, 2001, the occasion
 3 of the 365th anniversary of the founding of the militia
 4 of the Massachusetts Bay Colony that was the precursor
 5 to the force of citizen soldiers and airmen now proudly
 6 known as the National Guard, Congress—

7 (1) recognizes that anniversary of the National
 8 Guard as an important milestone in the military tra-
 9 dition of the United States;

10 (2) honors the commitment and sacrifices made
 11 by the 458,400 citizen soldiers and airmen of the
 12 National Guard, their families, their employers, and
 13 their communities;

1 (3) recognizes the critical importance of the Na-
2 tional Guard, at home and abroad, to the national
3 security of the United States;

4 (4) salutes the citizen soldiers and airmen of
5 the National Guard for their service on September
6 11, 2001, and their continuing role in homeland de-
7 fense and military operations against the al Qaeda
8 terrorist network and the Taliban regime in Afghan-
9 istan that harbored those terrorists;

10 (5) supports a policy of providing the National
11 Guard with resources necessary to ensure its contin-
12 ued readiness; and

13 (6) expresses the deep gratitude of the Amer-
14 ican people to the men and women of the National
15 Guard for their dedication and commitment to the
16 security and freedom of the United States.

Passed the Senate December 13, 2001.

Attest:

Secretary.

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 93

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring the National Guard on the occasion of the 365th anniversary of its historic beginning with the founding of the militia of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.