
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO EXTEND THE TIME
FOR ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR GUARD
SERVICEMEMBERS WHO HAVE SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY.

1 WHEREAS, military service offers a tremendous array of
2 educational benefits that can be used while a servicemember is a
3 reservist, a member of the guard, on active duty, or after
4 leaving the service; and
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6 WHEREAS, such educational benefits are a valuable tool in
7 recruiting individuals to join the military, thus, each
8 servicemember should be provided the opportunity to fully
9 utilize those benefits that each has earned; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve
12 (MGIB - SR) is an education assistance program that was enacted
13 by Congress to benefit the high-quality men and women enrolled
14 in the Selected Reserve of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine
15 Corps, and Coast Guard, and the Army and Air National Guard; and
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17 WHEREAS, if eligible, a member of the Selected Reserve or
18 National Guard can use the MGIB-SR towards any degree programs,
19 certificate or correspondence courses, cooperative training,
20 independent study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training,
21 and vocational flight training programs; and
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23 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, state educational benefits are also
24 available to members of the Hawaii National Guard through the
25 Hawaii National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program, which
26 provides one hundred per cent coverage for community colleges
27 and fifty per cent coverage for four-year colleges; and
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29 WHEREAS, however, such servicemember in the Hawaii National
30 Guard who is called to active duty is unable to take advantage
31 of state educational benefits during the time of active duty;
32 and
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34 WHEREAS, upon return from active duty, the servicemember is
35 further unable to utilize the state educational benefits once



1 the servicemember's enlistment has ended, thereby not being
2 afforded the full benefit promised upon entry into military
3 service; and
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5 WHEREAS, these committed servicemembers of the Hawaii
6 National Guard who are called to active duty should not be
7 penalized for their service to their country; now, therefore,
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
11 that the State Department of Defense is requested to provide
12 state educational benefits to members of the Hawaii National
13 Guard who are called to active duty; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Department of Defense
16 is requested to consider tolling the time for eligibility for
17 educational benefits by guard servicemembers during the time
18 that they are called to active duty or providing a fixed
19 extended period of time to such servicemembers, as appropriate;
20 and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General.

