House Resolution

A resolution designating May 13, 2010, as "Florida Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Day."

WHEREAS, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense organization whose committee members volunteer their time in support of the men and women of the National Guard and reserves, their families, and their employers, and

10 WHEREAS, the ESGR seeks to promote a culture in which
11 employers throughout the nation support and place appropriate
12 value upon the military service of their employees as they

WHEREAS, ESGR was established in 1972 as an agency of the United States Department of Defense and is funded by the department, and

defend our nation and provide for our national security, and

WHEREAS, the organization constantly endeavors to gain and maintain employer support for National Guard and reserve service by recognizing outstanding support of such servicemembers and increasing awareness of the importance of that support, and

WHEREAS, the Florida ESGR committee provides support to the 37,000 reserve members who serve in the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, Marine Corp Reserve, and Navy Reserve, and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the more than 130 volunteers of the Florida ESGR committee worked a total of 8,782 hours to accomplish various tasks in support of the state's National Guard members and reservists, and

WHEREAS, supportive employers are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of our National Guard and reserve units and ESGR is an invaluable resource for both employers and the National Guard and military reserve members that works for them, and

WHEREAS, employers and members of ESGR are provided assistance by volunteers across the state under the authority of the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), and

WHEREAS, volunteers assist employers and members of ESGR in familiarizing themselves with the resources and services that ESGR provides and encourage members and employers to take advantage of this information and assistance should the need ever arise, and

WHEREAS, ESGR's employer outreach volunteers provide information, education, and services for employers through programs across the state, and

WHEREAS, ESGR also has an awards program designed to acknowledge the efforts of employers to support their military employees, and

WHEREAS, ESGR's military outreach volunteers provide
National Guard and military reserve members with important
information about their rights and responsibilities under USERRA
and about ESGR programs and services, and

WHEREAS, ESGR-trained volunteer ombudsmen provide information, confidential counseling, and neutral mediation relating to compliance with USERRA requirements, and

WHEREAS, Florida employer support for the National Guard and reserve honors our courageous guardsmen and reservists, the continued support of whom is vital to the success of our Armed Forces and to the strength of the nation, and

WHEREAS, it is essential not only to maintain employer support for members of the Florida National Guard and military reserves by recognizing outstanding contributions and efforts by employers, increasing awareness of the laws that support Florida National Guard and military reserve service, and resolving conflicts through mediation, it is equally essential to continually strive to increase such support, and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate for the Florida House of Representatives to express its full support for the Florida Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve organization and, in furtherance of that support, designate a day in honor of the organization and its volunteers, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That the House of Representatives of the State of Florida designates May 13, 2010, as "Florida Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Day."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the State of Florida urges all Floridians to learn more about the Florida Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve organization and the resources and services it provides, and to take advantage of the information and assistance offered by the

organization in support of the members of the Florida National Guard and the military reserves and their employers in the State of Florida.

84

85

86