

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINAL BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: HM 4005	COMPANION BILL: SM 314 (Wright)
TITLE: Florida National Guard	LINKED BILLS: None
SPONSOR(S): Daley	RELATED BILLS: None
FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION: N/A Y's N/A N's	GOVERNOR'S ACTION: N/A

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The memorial urges the United States Congress to require the National Guard Bureau to examine the resource allocations of the Florida National Guard and allow an increase in its force structure.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

None.

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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

HM 4005 passed as [SM 314](#). (Please note that bill section parentheticals do not contain hyperlinks to bill sections for Senate bills.)

The memorial urges the United States Congress to require the [National Guard Bureau](#) to examine the resource allocations of the [Florida National Guard](#) and allow an increase in its force structure.

The memorial directs the Secretary of State to dispatch copies of the memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

Legislative memorials are not subject to the Governor's veto power and are not presented to the Governor for review. Memorials have no force of law, as they are mechanisms for formally petitioning the federal government to act on a particular subject.

The Memorial is not subject to the Governor's veto powers.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

[National Guard Bureau \(NGB\)](#)

The National Defense Act of 1916 established the NGB as a separate unit of the militia division of the federal government.¹ In 1948, the Secretary of Defense of the United States issued an order designating the NGB as a joint bureau of the Departments of the Army and Air Force. The NGB functions as the channel of communications on all matters pertaining to the National Guard between the Departments of the Army and the Air Force and the states.² Under current federal law, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force, allocates the unit structure and strength authorizations for the National Guard in each state.³ The NGB must submit an annual report to the Secretary of Defense, through the

¹ National Archives, [Records of the National Guard Bureau](#) (last visited Feb. 11, 2025).

² 10 U.S.C. s. 10501(b).

³ 10 U.S.C. s. 10503.

Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force, identifying the personnel, training, and equipment required by the non-federalized National Guard.⁴

The National Guard is unique among militia in that its members serve both the country nationally and in the local community.⁵ The dual mission of a Guard member means that each member serves through both the National Guard of the state and through the United States Army or the United States Air Force.

Florida National Guard (FLNG)

The FLNG consists of organized, armed, equipped, and federally recognized commissioned officers, warrant officers, and enlisted personnel who are citizens of the United States or who have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States.⁶ The FLNG has separate Army and Air Force components that are subject to the Departments of the Army and the Air Force, respectively. The Governor is the commander in chief of all militia of the state⁷ and is responsible for appointing a federally recognized officer of the FLNG to be the Adjutant General, who serves as the Commanding General of the state’s organized militia.⁸

As of June 2024, the FLNG was composed of 10,264 personnel in the Army National Guard and 2,016 personnel in the Air National Guard, for a total of 12,280 authorized personnel.⁹ The current estimated population of Florida is 23,372,215, ranking as the third most populous state.¹⁰ However, the percentage of FLNG personnel compared to the state population is 0.053 percent and National Guard strength is 53 personnel per 100,000 civilians. The ratio of FLNG personnel to general population is less than states such as Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, or Minnesota, which have similarly sized guard contingents but significantly smaller state populations.¹¹

RECENT LEGISLATION:

YEAR	BILL #	HOUSE SPONSOR(S)	SENATE SPONSOR	OTHER INFORMATION
2024	SM 226	Daley	Wright	The memorial passed both chambers and was filed with the Secretary of State.
2023	SM 1036	Daley	Wright	The memorial passed both chambers and was filed with the Secretary of State.
2022	SM 826	Daley	Wright	The memorial passed both chambers and was filed with the Secretary of State.

⁴ 10 U.S.C. s. 10504.

⁵ Army National Guard, [Our History](#) (last visited Feb. 11, 2025).

⁶ S. [250.07, F.S.](#)

⁷ [Art. IV, s. 1\(a\), Fla. Const.](#)

⁸ S. [250.10, F.S.](#) 32 U.S.C. s. 314(a) requires an adjutant general in each state and requires the adjutant general to perform the duties prescribed by the laws of the state of appointment.

⁹ Department of Defense, Defense Manpower Data Center, [Number of Military and DoD Appropriated Fund \(APF\) Civilian Personnel \(June 2024\)](#) (last visited Feb. 11, 2025).

¹⁰ United States Census Bureau, [QuickFacts Florida](#) (last visited Feb. 11, 2025).

¹¹ See Department of Defense, Defense Manpower Data Center, [Number of Military and DoD Appropriated Fund \(APF\) Civilian Personnel \(June 2024\)](#) (last visited Feb. 11, 2025).