



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## 2011 REGULAR SESSION

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 138

CORRECTED

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2011

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The following concurrent resolution was reported to the Senate from the House and ordered to be printed.

RECEIVED AND FILED  
DATE March 16, 2011  
11:16 Am  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ELAINE N. WALKER  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BY R. Allen

1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress to direct more resources and  
2 attention to providing treatment to combat military personnel and combat veterans  
3 suffering from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other combat-related stress  
4 disorders.

5           WHEREAS, the most common mental health problems faced by returning troops  
6 are Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, depression, and other combat-related stress disorders;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are the longest combat operations  
9 since Vietnam, and the stress of being in a war zone combined with the stress of being  
10 away from home for long periods of time can increase the chance of having PTSD or  
11 other mental health problems; and

12           WHEREAS, in 2009, more than 330 members of the United States Armed Forces  
13 nationwide committed suicide, and it is estimated that for every death, at least five  
14 members of the United States Armed Forces were hospitalized for attempting to take their  
15 own lives; and

16           WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of  
17 Defense, and many other entities are working to identify and address the issues of combat  
18 veterans and combat military personnel suffering from PTSD and other combat-related  
19 stress disorders; and

20           WHEREAS, the Department of Defense has established Warrior Transition Units at  
21 Fort Knox and Fort Campbell designed to offer extensive assistance to service members  
22 and their families; and

23           WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has a PTSD program  
24 at each of Kentucky's VA Medical Centers; and

25           WHEREAS, to ensure that combat veterans get the assistance they need, the  
26 General Assembly through legislation required Pretrial Service Officers, as part of their  
27 interview process, to ask whether an individual has been in combat and, if so, to provide

1 contact information for services available to combat veterans; and

2 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has supported members of the United States  
3 Armed Forces and the National Guard by encouraging all to seek assistance through the  
4 National Guard's Joint Services Support Portal, which is designed to provide "a one stop  
5 shop" for programs and support services available to all military personnel and their  
6 families; and

7 WHEREAS, mental trauma is not as easily identifiable as the physical trauma  
8 suffered by combat military personnel and combat veterans, and may require additional  
9 resources to identify and treat; and

10 WHEREAS, while support and treatment programs are available to combat veterans  
11 and combat military personnel suffering from PTSD or other combat-related stress  
12 disorders, there are many service members who are still not receiving sufficient  
13 treatment; and

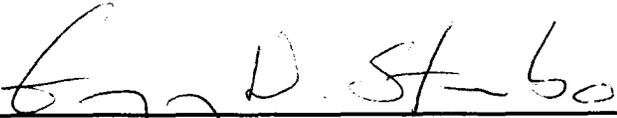
14 WHEREAS, the service members who willingly sacrifice their safety for the  
15 freedom of all Americans deserve to have access to all the resources and support services  
16 necessary for them to reintegrate into society;

17 NOW, THEREFORE,

18 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***  
19 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:***

20 ➔Section 1. The Kentucky General Assembly urges the 112th Congress of the  
21 United States to direct more attention and resources to providing efficient and  
22 comprehensive mental health treatment to combat military personnel and combat  
23 veterans.

24 ➔Section 2. The Kentucky General Assembly hereby directs that a copy of this  
25 Resolution be sent to each member of the Kentucky's congressional delegation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker-House of Representatives

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Senate

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of House of Representatives

Approved   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Date 3-16-11