

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3159

To mandate minimum periods of rest and recuperation for units and members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces between deployments for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 24, 2007

Mrs. TAUSCHER (for herself, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HARE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. ORTIZ, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. ANDREWS, and Mr. REYES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To mandate minimum periods of rest and recuperation for units and members of the regular and reserve components of the Armed Forces between deployments for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. MINIMUM PERIODS OF REST AND RECUPER-**
2 **ATION FOR UNITS AND MEMBERS OF THE**
3 **ARMED FORCES BETWEEN DEPLOYMENTS.**

4 (a) **REGULAR COMPONENTS.**—

5 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—No unit or member of the
6 Armed Forces specified in paragraph (3) may be de-
7 ployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation
8 Enduring Freedom (including participation in the
9 NATO International Security Assistance Force (Af-
10 ghanistan)) unless the period between the deploy-
11 ment of the unit or member is equal to or longer
12 than the period of such previous deployment.

13 (2) **SENSE OF CONGRESS ON OPTIMAL MINIMUM**
14 **PERIOD BETWEEN DEPLOYMENTS.**—It is the sense
15 of Congress that the optimal minimum period be-
16 tween the previous deployment of a unit or member
17 of the Armed Forces specified in paragraph (3) to
18 Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring
19 Freedom and a subsequent deployment of the unit
20 or member to Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation
21 Enduring Freedom should be equal to or longer than
22 twice the period of such previous deployment.

23 (3) **COVERED UNITS AND MEMBERS.**—The
24 units and members of the Armed Forces specified in
25 this paragraph are as follows:

1 (A) Units and members of the regular
2 Army.

3 (B) Units and members of the regular Ma-
4 rine Corps.

5 (C) Units and members of the regular
6 Navy.

7 (D) Units and members of the regular Air
8 Force.

9 (E) Units and members of the regular
10 Coast Guard.

11 (b) RESERVE COMPONENTS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—No unit or member of the
13 Armed Forces specified in paragraph (3) may be de-
14 ployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation
15 Enduring Freedom (including participation in the
16 NATO International Security Assistance Force (Af-
17 ghanistan)) if the unit or member has been deployed
18 at any time within the three years preceding the
19 date of the deployment covered by this subsection.

20 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON MOBILIZATION
21 AND OPTIMAL MINIMUM PERIOD BETWEEN DEPLOY-
22 MENTS.—It is the sense of Congress that the units
23 and members of the reserve components of the
24 Armed Forces should not be mobilized continuously
25 for more than one year; and the optimal minimum

1 period between the previous deployment of a unit or
2 member of the Armed Forces specified in paragraph
3 (3) to Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Endur-
4 ing Freedom and a subsequent deployment of the
5 unit or member to Operation Iraqi Freedom or Op-
6 eration Enduring Freedom should be five years.

7 (3) COVERED UNITS AND MEMBERS.—The
8 units and members of the Armed Forces specified in
9 this paragraph are as follows:

10 (A) Units and members of the Army Re-
11 serve.

12 (B) Units and members of the Army Na-
13 tional Guard.

14 (C) Units and members of the Marine
15 Corps Reserve.

16 (D) Units and members of the Navy Re-
17 serve.

18 (E) Units and members of the Air Force
19 Reserve.

20 (F) Units and members of the Air Na-
21 tional Guard.

22 (G) Units and members of the Coast
23 Guard Reserve.

24 (c) WAIVER BY THE PRESIDENT.—The President
25 may waive the limitation in subsection (a) or (b) with re-

1 spect to the deployment of a unit or member of the Armed
2 Forces if the President certifies to Congress that the de-
3 ployment of the unit or member is necessary to meet an
4 operational emergency posing a threat to vital national se-
5 curity interests of the United States.

6 (d) WAIVER BY MILITARY CHIEF OF STAFF OR COM-
7 MANDANT FOR VOLUNTARY MOBILIZATIONS.—

8 (1) ARMY.—With respect to the deployment of
9 a member of the Army who has voluntarily re-
10 quested mobilization, the limitation in subsection (a)
11 or (b) may be waived by the Chief of Staff of the
12 Army.

13 (2) NAVY.—With respect to the deployment of
14 a member of the Navy who has voluntarily requested
15 mobilization, the limitation in subsection (a) or (b)
16 may be waived by the Chief of Naval Operations.

17 (3) MARINE CORPS.—With respect to the de-
18 ployment of a member of the Marine Corps who has
19 voluntarily requested mobilization, the limitation in
20 subsection (a) or (b) may be waived by the Com-
21 mandant of the Marine Corps.

22 (4) AIR FORCE.—With respect to the deploy-
23 ment of a member of the Air Force who has volun-
24 tarily requested mobilization, the limitation in sub-

1 section (a) or (b) may be waived by the Chief of
2 Staff of the Air Force.

3 (5) COAST GUARD.—With respect to the deploy-
4 ment of a member of the Coast Guard who has vol-
5 untarily requested mobilization, the limitation in
6 subsection (a) or (b) may be waived by the Com-
7 mandant of the Coast Guard.

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