



West Virginia
Citizen Action Group
"Action for a Change"



West Virginia Patriots for Peace

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Contact: Gary Zuckett, Citizen Action 304-346-5891
Jim Lewis, Patriots for Peace 304-345-0427

Resolution to Bring National Guard Home introduced in WV Legislature

Senators and Delegates demand that Governors' Authority over Guard be Reinstated

Charleston WV – Both houses of the WV legislature have introduced a resolution asking Congress to empower WV's governor to bring home our national guard from an open-ended deployment overseas. Strongly worded resolutions (HCR 85 & SCR 91) co-sponsored by 29 Delegates and 4 Senators implore Congress to bring West Virginia's National Guard home to help protect state citizens at home.

"Whereas, The WV National Guard, under the able leadership of Major General Allen E. Tackett, has served courageously and faithfully in Afghanistan and Iraq for the past five years and deserves the respect and admiration of all West Virginians," begins the Senate resolution.

The House resolution finishes with, "Whereas, West Virginians are ever mindful of natural and man made disasters which threaten lives and property such as the Buffalo Creek disaster of February 26, 1972, and the importance of having West Virginia's National Guard units prepared and ready for deployment to provide aid in any imminent emergency; therefore, be it *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia*: That Congress is urged to revisit the 1986 Montgomery Amendment and adopt legislation that restores the powers of the Governors of the several states to withhold consent to federalization of their National Guards, except where a declaration of war has been adopted or where the United States faces attack or invasion and the President has invoked powers authorized by an Act of Congress to address those circumstances;"

Rev Jim Lewis of WV Patriots for Peace comments, "It's time for the WV National Guard to come home--past time. Families need Guard members back home, and communities need them home where they can be in position to address homeland security issues and emergencies as they arise in West Virginia. Governors need to reclaim the authority over the Guard--authority which has been misused by President Bush."

Gary Zuckett, Executive Director of WV Citizen Action responded, "It's about time our Guard is redeployed back to West Virginia. If we have major natural disaster we'll need them right now, not next year or the year after. It's time for the Iraq National Guard to step up and take responsibility for their own security. We're calling on Congress to empower our governor to bring our Guard home now!"

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