Sponsors:	Senators Brown (Primary Sponsor); Brock, Daniel, D. Davis, J. Davis, Goolsby,
	Hise, Jackson, Pate, Randleman, and Woodard.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 27, 2013

A SENATE RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

Whereas, the month of May is National Military Appreciation Month and honors, remembers, recognizes, and appreciates all military personnel; those men and women who have served throughout our history, and all who now serve in uniform and their families, as well as those Americans who have given their lives in defense of our freedoms we all enjoy today; and

Whereas, North Carolina is the home of six major Department of Defense (DOD)/Department of Homeland Security (DHS) installations: Coast Guard Station, Elizabeth City; Fort Bragg; Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point; Marine Corps Air Station New River; Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune; and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, as well as the North Carolina National Guard and other DOD/DHS activities and organizations; and

Whereas, the United States military is the second largest sector of North Carolina's economy, accounting for 8% of North Carolina's gross State product, worth \$23.4 billion, and more than 416,000 individuals are either directly employed by the military or working in jobs providing goods or services that support the military's presence in North Carolina; and

Whereas, defense procurement contracts in North Carolina exceeded \$4.1 billion in 2011, and businesses with defense-related contracts operate in 87 of North Carolina's 100 counties; and

Whereas, North Carolina is committed to supporting and promoting the military within the State; and

Whereas, the continued long-term military presence in North Carolina is directly dependent on DOD/DHS's ability to operate not only its installations but also its training and other readiness functions critical to national defense; and

Whereas, it is therefore of paramount importance to the future of North Carolina to maintain the best possible relationship with all branches of the United States military and to promote practices that maintain North Carolina's preeminent position as the best location for military bases and training installations; and

Whereas, to those ends, it is critical for all North Carolinians, all North Carolina businesses, all sectors of North Carolina's economy, and especially all branches and agencies of North Carolina's State and local governments to be knowledgeable about not only the military's presence and contributions to our State but also of the military's special and unique requirements that are critical to carrying out its national defense mission; and

Whereas, North Carolina also seeks to promote the economic development, growth, and expansion of other industries within the State, such as the agriculture/agribusiness industry, the renewable energy industry, the tourism/outdoor recreation industry, and the fisheries industries; and



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Whereas, North Carolina has a vested economic interest in the preservation and enhancement of land uses that are compatible with military activities; Now, therefore, Be it resolved by the Senate:

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SECTION 1. The Senate expresses its profound gratitude and appreciation to all the men and women of the United States Armed Forces for their selfless service and pays tribute to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

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SECTION 2. This resolution is effective upon adoption.

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