

Rep. Abed offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 233.

A resolution to urge the Congress and the President of the United States to exempt National Guard personnel from sequestration cuts in the same manner as other military personnel were exempted.

Whereas, The Michigan National Guard has 11,703 active soldiers and airmen in its ranks. Approximately 22,000 Michigan soldiers and airmen have been mobilized since the start of the Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom campaigns. Over sixteen hundred Michigan soldiers and airmen are currently deployed in the Middle East region and all have fought valiantly; and

Whereas, Michigan's Air and Army National Guard's Major Subordinate Commands, including the 127th Wing (Selfridge Air National Guard Base), 110th Airlift Wing (Battle Creek National Guard Base), Joint Force Headquarters (Lansing), 46th Military Police Command (Lansing), 177th Military Police Brigade (Taylor), 63rd Regional Support Group (Wyoming), 272nd Troop Command (Jackson), and Michigan's National Guard Training Facilities, including Camp Grayling (Grayling), Fort Custer (Augusta) and Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center (Alpena) are vital to our state's and our nation's security and military readiness; and

Whereas, The National Guard was already scheduled to make \$487 billion in cuts over the next decade and sequestration will add an additional \$500 billion. Under sequestration, uniformed military personnel are exempt from furlough days and pay cuts. However, members of the National Guard are not exempt. National Guard members will have sacrificed up to 20 percent of their pay every week through the end of September, 2013 as a result of the furloughs. In addition, significant budget cuts to the National Guard have placed the readiness of our military at home and abroad at risk. The justification for exempting all other military branches should be applied to the National Guard as well; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge Congress and the President of the United States to pass legislation recognizing that the National Guard components of the U.S. military are as pivotal and necessary to our success in armed conflicts as other branches of the Armed Forces, and therefore should not be treated differently when it comes to the effects of sequestration; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.