

Resolution Urging Governor Inslee to Reject Request for Washington National Guard Troop Deployment to Southern Border

Sponsored by Judi Gibbs. Drafted by Ann Martin for the Metropolitan Democratic Club.

WHEREAS, the Washington Military Department's mission is to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters on people, property, environment and the economy of Washington State by providing trained and ready forces for state and federal missions¹; and

WHEREAS, the Washington National Guard is a part of the Washington Military Department; and

WHEREAS, at the call of the governor, the Washington National Guard, which is made up of more than 8,000 Washington citizen soldiers, mobilizes and deploys during times of state emergency to augment local jurisdictions and responders in their efforts to protect lives and property; and

WHEREAS, the president of the United States may also call upon the services of the National Guard when warranted; and

WHEREAS, the president has asked a number of states to send troops to the border between Mexico and the US (southern border) for the purposes of augmenting the border patrol; and

WHEREAS, the Pew Research Center reports that in 2015, the number of unauthorized immigrants living in the US was lower than it was in the 2009, and the number of unauthorized immigrants from Mexico has dropped over that time²; and

WHEREAS, the drop in Mexican unauthorized crossing has been replaced in part by unauthorized immigration from Asia and other Central American countries, there is no evidence that there is any special emergency that would warrant the sending of Washington National Guard troops to the southern border; and

WHEREAS, the governor of Oregon has already refused to send troops to the southern border,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 36th District Democrats urge Governor Inslee to reject any request by the president of the US to send Washington National Guard troops to the southern border absent proof of an emergency warranting such deployment.

¹ <https://www.mil.wa.gov/national-guard>

² <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/04/27/5-facts-about-illegal-immigration-in-the-u-s/>