



## 2005 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 29

June 14, 2005 - Introduced by Senator BROWN, cosponsored by Representative MUSSER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** expressing support for the continued presence of military installations  
2           throughout the state.

3           Whereas, the Wisconsin Constitution, as adopted in 1848, authorized the  
4     legislature to determine the composition, organization, and discipline of the state  
5     militia; and

6           Whereas, in 1849, the Wisconsin Statutes specified the procedure for the  
7     organization of locally controlled “uniform companies,” and, by 1858, the legislature  
8     provided for the organization of the State Militia, and, in 1879, state law changed the  
9     militia’s name to the Wisconsin National Guard; and

10          Whereas, in 1903, Congress passed the legislation to provide federal  
11     supervision of and financial responsibility for the National Guard, granting federal  
12     aids and inspections by regular U.S. Army officers; and

13          Whereas, Wisconsin is the proud home of 4 military installations: Fort McCoy,  
14     Volk Field, Truax Field, and Mitchell Field; and

1           Whereas, Fort McCoy in Monroe County has proudly served Wisconsin and the  
2 nation since 1909; and

3           Whereas, since Sept. 11, 2001, Fort McCoy has served more than 36,000  
4 soldiers from nearly 700 units for mobilization and demobilization and serves in a  
5 continuing capacity as one of the Army’s 15 Power-Projection Platforms by  
6 preparing soldiers for duty in the Global War on Terrorism; and

7           Whereas, Volk Field in Juneau County is one of only 4 Air National Guard  
8 Combat Readiness Training Centers in the nation, annually administering training  
9 to more than 200 units every year; and

10           Whereas, the Fort McCoy-Volk Field combination represents a combination of  
11 joint-force capabilities unlike any other military installations anywhere in the  
12 upper Midwest; and

13           Whereas, Truax Field in Dane County is home to the 115th Fighter Wing of the  
14 Wisconsin Air National Guard and the 147th Aviation Unit of the Wisconsin Army  
15 National Guard; and

16           Whereas, the Truax Field facilities are considered models by the Air National  
17 Guard Civil Engineering Office at Andrews Air Force Base; and

18           Whereas, Mitchell Field in Milwaukee County is home to the Air National  
19 Guard’s 128th Air Refueling Wing and the Air Force Reserve’s 440th Airlift Wing;  
20 and

21           Whereas, the 128th and 440th provide military airspace training operations  
22 from Eau Claire in western Wisconsin to the middle of Lake Michigan, encompassing  
23 more than 80,000 square miles; and

24           Whereas, over the past 150 years, Wisconsin units have been called to active  
25 federal service on numerous occasions including the Civil War, the

1 Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the Berlin Crisis, the Korean  
2 War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, Operations Southern Watch and  
3 Northern Watch, Operation Allied Force, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation  
4 Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

5 Whereas, more than 8,000 military, civilian, and contract workers are  
6 employed by the state's military bases; and

7 Whereas, citizens across the state continue to perform selfless volunteer duties  
8 in support of the United States military in times of war and peace, strengthening  
9 Wisconsin's long-standing tradition of citizen support of and service to active and  
10 veteran military personnel; and

11 Whereas, these dedicated individuals generate an estimated \$918 million  
12 annually into the economy contributing to Wisconsin's civic and financial well-being;  
13 and

14 Whereas, within hours of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on America,  
15 the Wisconsin Guard began yet another period of extensive support to U.S. military  
16 operations; and

17 Whereas, Wisconsin's facilities are of strong military value to the current and  
18 future mission capabilities of the United States Armed Forces to defend America  
19 against 21st century threats; and

20 Whereas, with new mobilization orders as of June 2005, approximately 6,620  
21 soldiers and airmen from the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard will have  
22 served on active duty since September 11, 2001; now, therefore, be it

23 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the legislature of  
24 the state of Wisconsin expresses gratitude for the contributions that military and  
25 civilian personnel at military installations throughout the state, including Fort

1 McCoy, Volk Field, Truax Field and Mitchell Field, have made and continue to make  
2 to strengthen the nation’s defense, the state’s economy, and the communities in  
3 which they live; and, be it further

4 ***Resolved, That*** the legislature expresses support for the continued presence  
5 of military installations throughout the state for future mission opportunities, which  
6 seek to protect our liberties and freedoms; and, be it further

7 ***Resolved, That*** this joint resolution shall serve to recognize the sacrifice of  
8 military men and women serving at home and abroad as well as their families who  
9 honor their loved ones’ devotion to service and country; and, be it further

10 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall send a copy of this joint resolution  
11 to military personnel at Fort McCoy, Volk Field, Truax Field, and Mitchell Field,  
12 members of the Wisconsin congressional delegation, the secretary of the United  
13 States Department of Defense, and members of the Base Realignment and Closure  
14 Commission, on behalf of the people of the great state of Wisconsin.

15 (END)