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STATEMENT OF
BRIGADIER GENERAL STAN FLEMMING

Good afternoon. Mr. Lamont, General Stultz, Command Sergeant Major Chandler. It is a pleasure to welcome you to our great state of Washington.

For the record, my name is Stan Flemming. I am a retired Brigadier General, who had the privilege of serving my career on Active Duty, the Army National Guard, and in the United States Army Reserve. I would not be standing here before you today, if it were not for the appointment I received from you, General Stultz, to continue to serving the Army Reserve as an Army Reserve Ambassador in 2012. I am also a physician, and have served my community and state as a member of the Washington House of Representatives, a mayor of one of our local cities, a university president, and member of the Pierce County council and County Executive Pro Tem. Most importantly, like each of you, I am a Soldier for Life. I mention these credentials only to emphasize my involvement and understanding of the Army Reserve and the significant impact it has in supporting our total Army, our community, and state.

I understand you just met with Soldiers from the 807th Medical Command and the 396th Combat Support Hospital, a unit I had at one time, the privilege to command. Thank you for visiting them and hearing why they have chosen to serve our great nation and the Army Reserve, and to see the professionalism and dedication they bring to our Army.

28 Today, my remarks are made on behalf the Chief of the
29 Army Reserve, Lieutenant General Jeffery Tally and the Army
30 Reserve Soldiers here in Washington.

31 As you know, Fiscal Year 16 begins one week from today.
32 And as we gather here, our Congress in the other Washington
33 has been unable to pass a budget that will continue to keep our
34 government funded and provide the necessary resources for our
35 Soldiers to maintain their readiness.

36 No matter where you stand on the political spectrum, it is
37 clear that budgetary restrictions and fiscal uncertainty are going to
38 be a reality indefinitely. And yet, the threats facing us have not
39 diminished. From Syria, to Iran, to North Korea, to the Ukraine
40 and to cyber threats here at home and abroad, we continue to live
41 in a world that is filled with danger, is unpredictable, and
42 contributes to the global and domestic economic instability.

43 Looking to the future, the world we live in demands that our
44 nation needs an Army that is trained and ready to preserve and
45 defend the strategic interest of the United States and ensure the
46 safety and security of the American people. To do that, it requires
47 an Army that financially may not be sustainable with regards to
48 the size that is required. As such, That Army must count on an
49 Army Reserve that is fully operational. Specifically, one that can
50 seamlessly integrate into the active force.

51 In 2004, I deployed my medical task force to the Kosovo
52 Theater. That task force consisted of Active, Reserve, and Army
53 National Guard soldiers. It was a fully trained, operational, and a
54 fully integrated force. Those who validated that task force could
55 not distinguish what component soldiers belonged to. Yet, their

56 performance individually and collectively was flawless. That is
57 what I mean by being a fully operational and capable force.

58 For while the Congress has charged you with determining
59 the proper structure of our Army, the real challenge is to ensure
60 that our Army remains a force capable of defending freedom for
61 millions around the world.

62 This is no small task. And I thank you for accepting that
63 responsibility.

64 In 1981, I entered an Army Reserve that was far from
65 operational. As a strategic Reserve, our Soldiers were not
66 prepared for war, and the notion of mobilization and deployment
67 was unheard of. The saving grace of the strategic Reserve, were
68 the veterans from past wars such as WWII, Korea, and Vietnam
69 whose past experiences of combat and combat support allowed
70 for the Reserves to sustain its framework.

71 The Persian Gulf War and Operation Desert Storm changed
72 that for many of us and over the last 14 years of war, we have
73 become a force of experienced professionals – citizens who use
74 their talents and skills in uniform and on the job with their civilian
75 employers.

76 Today's Army Reserve serves as a force multiplier to the
77 Active Component and is America's global operational reserve
78 force, providing quick access to a trained and ready force, with
79 critical capabilities found nowhere else in the Army or the Joint
80 Force. It is efficient and cost-effective.

81 The 202,000 soldiers serving in the Army Reserve provides

- 82 • **80% OF OUR CIVIL AFFAIRS CAPABILITIES**
- 83 • **37% OF THE LOGISTICS CAPABILITIES**

- 84 • **>60% OF THE FIELD MEDICAL SUPPORT**
- 85 **AND HOSPITALS**
- 86 • **100% OF MEDICAL GROUPS**
- 87 • **100% OF LEGAL UNITS**
- 88 • **30% OF THE ENGINEERING CAPABILITES**

89 Collectively, we provide 20 percent of the Army's force for less
90 than 6 percent of its budget.

91 Here in Washington, the Army Reserve has an economic
92 impact of more than \$290 million. In addition to the Soldiers who
93 serve in our 122 Washington units, we support nearly 2,840 non-
94 defense jobs in our 21 communities. We have a total military
95 payroll of \$142.7 million and a civilian payroll of \$20.2 million.

96 In closing, any future force must include the composition of
97 the Army Reserve. I thank you for coming and for allowing me this
98 opportunity to speak.

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