

## Senate Resolution 7 - Introduced

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY SALMON, ZAUN, WESTRICH, McCLINTOCK, LOFGREN, GUTH,  
J. TAYLOR, KRAAYENBRINK, GREEN, and ALONS

1 A Resolution condemning the federal vaccination mandate  
2 for members of the military and urging state and  
3 federal authorities to take remedial actions for  
4 negatively impacted service members.

5 WHEREAS, the Iowa Army and Air National Guard  
6 provide vital services and keep the citizens of Iowa  
7 and the United States secure in times of emergency; and

8 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration and U.S. Secretary  
9 of Defense Lloyd Austin previously issued an arbitrary  
10 order that Iowa Army and Air National Guard service  
11 members must be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus  
12 as a condition of their service to the state and  
13 nation; and

14 WHEREAS, said vaccination mandates made recruiting  
15 efforts difficult, compromising the readiness of the  
16 Iowa Army and Air National Guard, and violating the  
17 personal freedoms of our guardsmen to make their own  
18 medical decisions; and

19 WHEREAS, while the U.S. Department of Defense has  
20 been authorized approximately 2.1 million uniformed  
21 personnel, according to December 20, 2022, Department  
22 of Defense data, the department has fallen short by  
23 99,805 fully vaccinated members; of that number, 26,145  
24 personnel are partially vaccinated and 73,660 positions  
25 have no possible vaccinated person to take the position  
26 at all; and

27 WHEREAS, the congressionally required total armed

28 forces to protect national security interests could  
1 not be met while the vaccination mandate was in place  
2 without adding ranks of those who are being denied  
3 religious exemptions or compromising the principles of  
4 an all-volunteer force at its core; and

5 WHEREAS, thousands of service members in all  
6 branches of the United States military who chose not  
7 to receive the COVID-19 vaccinations were being denied  
8 medical and religious exemptions on the grounds of  
9 readiness, however, unvaccinated members who are  
10 otherwise healthy were often forced to separate  
11 from service, which was a greater threat to military  
12 readiness; and

13 WHEREAS, beyond their years of experience, the  
14 military stands to lose members with costly specialized  
15 training; in the case of *Wilson v. Austin* alone,  
16 250 pilots at an average cost of \$5.4 million in  
17 training may be purged, causing catastrophic financial  
18 losses; and

19 WHEREAS, according to federal law, and subsequently  
20 published in Department of Defense policy, it is  
21 an unlawful order to require a service member to be  
22 vaccinated with emergency use authorization-labeled  
23 vaccines; and

24 WHEREAS, all COVID-19 vaccines are labeled Emergency  
25 Use Authorization and required by federal law to  
26 be made optional, and not required, for all service  
27 members; and

28 WHEREAS, various other treatment options for  
29 COVID-19 exist and have been acknowledged by government

30 agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration and  
1 the Centers for Disease Control; and

2 WHEREAS, numerous harmful effects of the vaccine  
3 have been acknowledged as evident in adverse event  
4 tracking databases, and known as side effects by the  
5 Food and Drug Administration, National Institutes of  
6 Health, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
7 who subsequently enlisted assistance from various  
8 social media outlets to subdue the truth and cover it  
9 up; and

10 WHEREAS, service members waiting for or being denied  
11 exemptions have faced discrimination, court martial,  
12 and forced separation, while others have determined  
13 they can no longer renew their contract to serve,  
14 further exacerbating the already declining military  
15 numbers; and

16 WHEREAS, military medical whistle-blowers attempting  
17 to give truthful facts regarding COVID-19 and the  
18 vaccine have suffered adverse discriminatory acts  
19 and been subjected to various career-threatening  
20 punishments including private medical data being  
21 made public, withholding promotions or assignments,  
22 involuntary separation, court martials, career-ruining  
23 assignments, administrative reprimands, and  
24 non-judicial punishment; and

25 WHEREAS, those with medical exemptions or seeking  
26 religious exemptions were temporarily exempt, but  
27 barred from deployment as the COVID-19 vaccine was  
28 a "nonwaiverable" requirement for each geographic  
29 combatant command, and their freedoms and careers

30 continue to be impacted; and

1 WHEREAS, the majority of Federal District Court  
2 and U.S. Court of Appeals rulings have upheld the  
3 complaints of service members against the Department of  
4 Defense, alleging a violation of the Constitution and  
5 federal statutes in processing and denying religious  
6 accommodation requests; and

7 WHEREAS, all service members took an oath to support  
8 and defend the Constitution and are not required  
9 to obey unlawful orders, but have had their own  
10 constitutional rights and freedoms violated by their  
11 superiors; NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate  
13 urges the governor to act as follows to mitigate  
14 the arbitrary and unjustified action of the Biden  
15 Administration in requiring COVID-19 vaccinations of  
16 Iowa Guardsmen as a condition of service to our great  
17 state and to our nation:

18 a. Reinstate the Iowa Army and Air National Guard  
19 members with back pay and full benefits who have  
20 refused the COVID-19 vaccine.

21 b. Publicly condemn any firings and nonpay status  
22 of Iowa Army and Air National Guard members.

23 c. Issue salary payments to the Iowa Army and Air  
24 National Guard members who are on a no-pay status  
25 relative to state active duty orders for refusing the  
26 COVID-19 vaccination.

27 d. Request the Iowa Adjutant General, Major General  
28 Benjamin Corell, to halt any further firings of Iowa  
29 Army and Air National Guard members who have refused

30 the COVID-19 vaccine, including those with medical or  
1 religious exemptions; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate commends the  
3 various advocacy groups such as the Liberty Counsel,  
4 First Liberty, Alliance for Free Citizens, Thomas More  
5 Society, and others who selflessly provided legal  
6 representation in federal district and appellate  
7 court to those seeking exemptions from the COVID-19  
8 mandate; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate commends the  
10 Governor for requesting that the federal government  
11 withdraw vaccine mandates for National Guard  
12 members; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate commends  
14 members of the U.S. Congress for rescinding the mandate  
15 in the Fiscal Year 2023 National Defense Authorization  
16 Act, and urges them to take further action to make  
17 whole those military members who were negatively  
18 affected by the COVID-19 vaccine mandate through  
19 compensatory measures such as noncompetitive promotion,  
20 back pay, full benefits, and a change allowing the  
21 COVID-19 vaccine to be a waivable requirement for  
22 deployment.