

House Concurrent Resolution No.

Whereas, the security of our nation and people is the first and foremost obligation of our United States federal government; and

Whereas, the men and women of our United States Armed Forces now serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, National Guard, and Reserves have shown great courage and self-sacrifice and deserve to be equipped with the best weapons and resources to protect our nation; and

Whereas, in past years politicians have delayed passing the defense appropriations bill until late in the budget year so that the defense appropriations bill was misused as a dumping ground for pork barrel spending and as a political hostage to pork barrel spending in other appropriations bills; and

Whereas, in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, on America, President Bush asked that Congress pass the Defense Appropriations bill before passing other spending bills; and

Whereas, Congress acted responsibly in the Spring of 2002 when it passed the Defense Appropriations bill first, thereby protecting the men and women in our Armed Forces from becoming pawns for politicians' spending maneuvers:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby commend the United States Congress for making our nation's defense its first priority in 2002, and request that the Missouri Congressional Delegation continue this important tradition by passing and enacting the Defense Appropriations Legislation before all other spending bills in 2004 and in future years; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for each member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation.

Offered by Representative Rod Jetton

Stephen S. Davis, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, and Terry L. Spieler, Secretary of the Senate, do hereby certify that the aforementioned is a true and correct copy of House Concurrent Resolution No. , adopted by the House of Representatives on , 2004, and concurred in the Senate on , 2004.

Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives

Secretary of the Senate