

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 239

BY REPRESENTATIVES MOORE, WILFORD CARTER, FISHER, FREEMAN,  
HUGHES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, JORDAN, KNOX, LARVADAIN, PIERRE,  
SELDERS, AND STAGNI

A RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to assist in the establishment of a Louisiana pilot program for the recruitment of new United States Army members to address the military recruitment shortage.

WHEREAS, the United States Army was founded to serve the American people, defend the nation, protect vital national interests, and fulfill national military responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army helps to maintain peace and stability in the United States and in regions critical to the interests of the United States; and

WHEREAS, recruiting and retaining service members is essential for our military members and national security; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the United States Army has struggled to recruit qualified and willing recruits; and

WHEREAS, last fiscal year, the United States Army missed its recruiting goal by fifteen thousand active duty soldiers, or twenty-five percent of its target; and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate Committee on Armed Services convened recently to explore solutions to the military recruitment crisis; and

WHEREAS, for decades, Louisiana has had the nation's highest incarceration rate and state leaders have sought programs to reduce recidivism and alternatives to incarceration; and

WHEREAS, elected officials want to work with the armed forces, law enforcement, and advocates to develop a plan to improve military eligibility which includes nonviolent offenders between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five with a high school diploma or college degree, such as an associate degree or bachelor's degree, to participate in the pilot program and join the United States Army.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to assist in the establishment of a Louisiana pilot program for the recruitment of new United States Army members to address the military recruitment shortage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the offenders who fail to complete the pilot program or who fail to enlist in the United States Army shall return to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections with credit for time served in the pilot program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES