DRAFT RESOLUTION 14-10

SUBJECT: HR 679/S 629 – Honor America’s Guard and Reserve Act

SOURCE: NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WHEREAS, a National Guard or Reserve Component member, who has completed a 20(+) year career, is designated as a ‘military retiree’ rather than a veteran upon retirement if they have never served on active duty (Title 10) orders for other than training purposes. (Drill training, annual training, active duty for training and Title 32, including border patrol duty are currently not qualifying service to earn Veteran status); and,

WHEREAS, these individuals, currently designated as ‘military retirees’, are already entitled to military retired pay, TRICARE health coverage, G.I. Bill, home loan and many other veterans' benefits and therefore deserve to be recognized as veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, this cost neutral bill, which would not bestow any additional or unearned benefits, would authorize ‘veteran status’ for National Guard and Reserve members that are entitled to a reserve retirement at age 60, but were never called to active federal service (Title 10) during their careers.; and

WHEREAS, the Honor America’s Guard-Reserve Retirees Act would legally authorize National Guard and Reserve members entitled to Reserve retirement pay, the honor of being recognized as a Veteran; now therefore

Be it resolved: That AMVETS do everything in its power to support the passage of HR 679/S 629 the Honor America’s Guard and Reserve Retirees Act.