

**CHAPTER 188****(HCR 112)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Kentucky's Congressional delegation to pursue the placement of a brigade-size combat team at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

WHEREAS, Fort Knox is the home of the Army's Armor and Cavalry Center, the United States Army Recruiting Command, and is critical to the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, Fort Knox employs more than 11,000 military and civilian workers and contributes nearly \$600 million in payroll and contracts to the economy of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Army's budget cuts and downsizing initiative have had an adverse economic impact on Fort Knox; and

WHEREAS, as a result, Fort Knox has lost over 5,475 soldiers, 1,000 civilian employees, and \$215 million in annual payroll and contracts; and

WHEREAS, the conflict in Bosnia and Kosovo revealed the Army's inability to move heavy forces to respond to our national interests; and

WHEREAS, the Army plans to transform to a lighter and more lethal force over the next five years in order to operate more effectively in places like the Balkans; and

WHEREAS, the Army plans to immediately reconfigure itself to a more responsive, deployable, and mobile force by creating five brigade-size combat teams; and

WHEREAS, platform demonstrations for the vehicles to equip the lighter brigade-size combat teams were done at Fort Knox because it was ideally suited with terrain mirroring combat conditions where lighter brigades are most expected to fight; and

WHEREAS, the Mounted Urban Combat Training facility and modern ranges at Fort Knox were crucial in the demonstration and testing of our war fighting capabilities but have not received funding from the Army; and

WHEREAS, although the two initial brigade-size combat teams will be stationed at Ft. Lewis, the Army has not made a decision on where to station the additional brigade-sized combat teams; and

WHEREAS, Fort Knox has clearly demonstrated that it possesses the resources and capacity to accommodate a brigade-size combat team; and

WHEREAS, a brigade-size combat team would have a significant positive impact on the economic well-being of our local communities which were adversely affected by the loss of the 194<sup>th</sup> Armored Brigade;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:*

Section 1. That the General Assembly urges our Congressional Delegation to pursue the placement of a brigade-size combat team at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where the terrain and weather best mirror the locations where forces are likely to be used in the future, and where the Army's premier Mounted Urban Combat Training facility and the Western Kentucky Training Center are

immediately available to train soldiers to face combat and peacekeeping missions in urban environments.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the House of Representatives send a copy of this Resolution to each member of Kentucky's Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. **Approved March 28, 2000**

