

**Enrolled**  
**House Joint Memorial 16**

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas men and women from the State of Oregon in the Armed Forces of the United States have served and continue to serve loyally and bravely in the defense of their country; and

Whereas gross domestic product data from the United States Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis indicate that small businesses provide 75 percent of new jobs in America; and

Whereas members of the National Guard and Reserve components of the Armed Forces of the United States ordered to active duty are forced to leave their jobs or close their businesses in order to serve in this nation's military forces; and

Whereas returning National Guard and Reserve members often have difficulty finding appropriate employment despite the legal protections now in place; and

Whereas Oregon's unemployment rate continues to be one of the highest in the country; and

Whereas entrepreneurial individuals with military instilled discipline find that operating one's own business is a viable alternative to working for another person; and

Whereas one of the significant barriers for business start-ups is a lack of capital for equipment, facilities and supplies; now, therefore,

**Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

(1) The Congress of the United States is respectfully urged to establish capital funds for grants to veterans starting new businesses.

(2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by House May 19, 2005

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Chief Clerk of House

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Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate July 1, 2005

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President of Senate