

A RESOLUTION

To urge the President of the United States not to allow members of the United States Armed Forces to be punished or reprimanded in any way for refusing to submit to a COVID-19 vaccine.

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Ohio:

WHEREAS, The United States Secretary of Defense, with the endorsement of President Biden, is requiring members of the armed forces to submit to a COVID-19 vaccination that is fully approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, The United States Air Force is requiring active duty members to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by November 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The United States Navy is requiring all members to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by November 28, 2021, and all Navy Reserve members by December 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The United States Marine Corps is requiring all active-duty members to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by November 28, 2021, and all reservists by December 28, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The United States Air Force National Guard and Air Force Reserve are requiring members to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by December 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The United States Army is requiring all active-duty members to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by December 15, 2021, and all National Guard members by June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, The United States Army released a statement detailing that soldiers who refuse to submit to a COVID-19 vaccination "will first be counseled by their chain of command and medical providers" and "continued failure to comply could result in administrative or non-judicial punishment – to include relief of duties or discharge"; and

WHEREAS, The United States Army has further stated, "Commanders, command sergeants major, first sergeants and officers in Command Select List...positions who refuse to be vaccinated - and are not pending an exemption request – face suspension and relief if they refuse to comply"; and

WHEREAS, The United States Army has further stated, "Officers and noncommissioned officers who have been selected and are waiting to assume [Command Select List] command, key billet or nominative sergeant major positions...will likewise be subject to removal from the list for those assignments should they refuse to be vaccinated without a pending or approved exemption"; and

WHEREAS, Such reprimands can be career-ending, according to the United States Army; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio Senate of the 134th General Assembly, urge the President not to allow members of the United States Armed Forces to be punished or reprimanded in any way, including discharge, for refusing to submit to a COVID-19 vaccination; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Ohio Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of Defense, all members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.

President _____ of the Senate.

Adopted _____, 20____