
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PROVIDE EIGHT-
PERSON FIRING PARTIES (SEVEN MEMBERS AND THE FIRING PARTY
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER IN CHARGE) AT THE FUNERALS OF ALL
AIR FORCE VETERANS AND RETIREES WHO WERE DISCHARGED OR
RELEASED UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE.

1 WHEREAS, veterans and retirees of the United States Air
2 Force stood ready to defend and protect our nation; and
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4 WHEREAS, those veterans and retirees also stood as
5 protectors of the lives and freedoms of individuals from other
6 nations who could not fight for themselves; and
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8 WHEREAS, proper respect should be paid to those veterans
9 and retirees after they pass away; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Air Force Instruction (AFI) 34-242, ordered by
12 the Secretary of the Air Force, establishes that deceased active
13 duty Air Force members shall receive full military funeral
14 honors, including eight-person firing parties (seven members and
15 the firing party Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge) that engage
16 in three-volley salutes, which consist of firing blank
17 cartridges into the air three times; and
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19 WHEREAS, with regard to deceased Air Force veterans, AFI
20 34-242 only requires teams of two persons to provide military
21 honors, and does not require the Air Force to provide three-
22 volley salutes; and
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24 WHEREAS, with regard to deceased Air Force retirees, AFI
25 34-242 authorizes Air Force Commanders to provide teams of up to
26 seven persons to provide military honors, but only requires the
27 Air Force to provide two-person teams, and does not require the
28 Air Force to provide three-volley salutes; and



WHEREAS, until December 1, 2015, the 15th Wing Honor Guard of the United States Air Force provided Air Force veterans and retirees laid to rest in Hawaii with 7-person funeral details that would provide the deceased with ceremonial military honors; and

WHEREAS, the 647th Force Squadron of the United States Air Force announced in a memorandum effective December 1, 2015, that the 15th Wing Honor guard would reduce veteran and retiree funeral details from seven-person details to three-person details, comprised of two individuals who would fold and present the internment flag and one who would play Taps; and

WHEREAS, Air Force veterans and retirees, even after they have passed away, deserve the full honor and respect of the United States of America and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Secretary of the Air Force is requested to amend AFI 34-242 and provide eight-person firing parties (seven members and the firing party Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge) at the funerals of all Air Force veterans and retirees who were discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Air Force; the Commander of the Pacific Air Forces; the Commander of 15th Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam; the Commander of the 647th Force Support Squadron; the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation; the Adjutant General; and the Director of the Office of Veterans' Services.

OFFERED BY: 

     

