

SB 667 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

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Meeting Dates: 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure prohibits the Governor from deploying the state militia for service in armed conflict or conduct of war, unless the United States Congress passes a declaration of war or explicitly calls forth the state militia to execute United States law, suppress an insurrection, or repel an invasion.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon statute currently permits the Governor to order the National Guard to serve outside of Oregon for military duty (396.130), and it requires the Governor to order the National Guard into service when called forth under the Constitution and laws of the United States (396.135). The Oregon National Guard currently has overseas [deployments](#) to Kosovo, Egypt, and the Middle East region, with deployments to Benin, Somalia, and the Horn of Africa expected to begin in May 2025.

The President of the United States has the power in certain instances to federalize and deploy the National Guard. Extreme weather events, border security, and military operations are some types of missions the National Guard has been called upon to assist with.

Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution provides Congress the exclusive power to declare war. Congress has done so on 11 occasions, most recently during World War II in 1942. Congress has, however, authorized the use of military force on other occasions, including in response to the attacks of September 11, 2001, and in Iraq in 2002.

Senate Bill 667 prohibits the Governor from deploying the militia for service in armed conflict or war unless Congress declares war, or calls the militia forth for law enforcement or to resist an insurrection or invasion.