

Submitter: Tammi Burkhardt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB947

I STRONGLY oppose SB 947 that proposes to change the word 'militia' to National Guard. Militia has been defined as the following:

1. a body of citizen (as opposed to professional) soldiers
2. a private group of armed individuals formed to defend individual rights against government authority that is perceived as oppressive
3. military organization of citizens with limited military training

The U.S. National Guard is a reserve group organized by the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force. Every state and territory of the United States has a National Guard, which can be called on by state governors during emergencies including riots and natural disasters. Guard units may also be ordered into active duty for up to two years by the U.S. president in the event of a national emergency.

By changing the language to National Guard, you are wrongly circumventing the US and state Constitution allowing for a group of people to be separate and apart from the state and federal government.