

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 25

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ROBERT AUTH**  
**District 39 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Clifton, Assemblywoman DiMaso, Assemblymen Wirths,  
Space, Dancer, Thomson, Wimberly and Karabinchak**

**SYNOPSIS**

Urges President and Congress to permit military personnel to carry loaded firearms at military facilities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



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1   **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging the President and Congress of  
2       the United States to allow military personnel to carry loaded  
3       firearms at military facilities.  
4  
5   **WHEREAS**, Since 1992, the United States Department of Defense has  
6       prohibited members of the military from carrying loaded firearms at  
7       military facilities, excluding military personnel specifically  
8       authorized to carry firearms; and  
9   **WHEREAS**, Several shootings have occurred at military facilities,  
10       including an attack on a military recruitment center, leaving the  
11       members of our Armed Forces with no means to defend themselves  
12       in the event of an immediate violent attack; and  
13   **WHEREAS**, The same men and women whom this country entrusts to  
14       protect us and engage in warfare overseas, who are well-trained  
15       with firearms, and who may have their own permits to carry  
16       firearms, may not protect themselves at military facilities in the  
17       same way they may protect themselves elsewhere; and  
18   **WHEREAS**, Military personnel are upstanding and disciplined citizens  
19       who follow the law and abide by the prohibition against carrying  
20       firearms at military facilities, but a rogue shooter, whether in the  
21       military or otherwise, who disregards the law and attacks a military  
22       facility places our nation’s servicemembers in great danger; and  
23   **WHEREAS**, If members of the military had been permitted to carry  
24       loaded firearms at military facilities, perhaps the senseless tragedies  
25       at Fort Hood, Texas, Chattanooga, Tennessee, and elsewhere could  
26       have been avoided; and  
27   **WHEREAS**, The government of the United States should be doing  
28       everything in its power to protect the men and women of our  
29       Armed Forces, including providing these military members with the  
30       opportunity to defend themselves in the event of a security breach  
31       at a military facility; and  
32   **WHEREAS**, Since the shooting in Chattanooga, at least six governors  
33       have signed orders allowing National Guard troops to carry  
34       firearms at their facilities, which will provide both a deterrent to  
35       would-be shooters seeking to harm members of the military, as well  
36       as protection for the military in the event of such an attack; and  
37   **WHEREAS**, The President and Congress should modify policies  
38       regarding the carrying of firearms at military facilities in light of  
39       what unfortunately may become a more common threat to our  
40       troops; and  
41   **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and appropriate for this House to  
42       urge the President and Congress to allow military personnel to carry  
43       loaded firearms at military facilities; now, therefore,  
44  
45       **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*  
46       *Jersey:*

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1        1. This House urges the President and Congress of the United  
2 States to allow military personnel to carry loaded firearms at  
3 military facilities, including military recruitment centers, so that  
4 members of our Armed Forces may better protect themselves in the  
5 event of an attack at these facilities.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President of the United States, the majority leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of New Jersey.

## STATEMENT

16 This resolution urges the President and Congress of the United  
17 States to allow military personnel to carry loaded firearms at  
18 military facilities so that, in the event of an attack at these facilities,  
19 our troops may better protect themselves.

20 Recently, there have been multiple attacks at military facilities.  
21 Due to a Department of Defense policy, members of the military are  
22 not permitted to carry loaded firearms at military facilities, unless  
23 they are specifically authorized to do for security reasons. This  
24 policy puts our nation's military members at great risk. While our  
25 troops remain unarmed at military facilities, criminals with no  
26 regard for the law take advantage of a policy that leaves members  
27 of our Armed Forces exposed and vulnerable. The United States  
28 should be doing everything in its power to protect the men and  
29 women making great sacrifices for our country, and the policy of  
30 prohibiting firearms at military facilities puts these men and women  
31 in danger.

32 These troops are entrusted to engage in warfare throughout the  
33 world, yet the Department of Defense's policy does not allow these  
34 same troops to defend themselves from a very real threat at home.  
35 It is time to change an outdated policy and provide protection for  
36 our members of the Armed Forces.