

**Child Care Support for Reserve Component Families  
(3: Family Support)  
Resolution No. 24-04**

**WHEREAS**, the 2017 Military One Source spouse survey shows a 39 percent increase in “New or increased need for child care” during deployments for Reserve Component families; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense now provides access to the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account to active duty service members and Active Guard Reserve members on Title 10 orders, but not to all reserve component service members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense, 2021 Demographics Report: Profile of the Military Community, shows there are 639,052 children of Selected Reserve members of which 63.2 percent are under 12 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, National Guard and Reserve families do not necessarily live near a military installation and therefore do not have easy access to the installation programs for families; and

**WHEREAS**, it was reported, “Surveys of military servicemembers and veterans have consistently found that affordable and reliable child care is a top quality-of-life concern”, according to Congressional Research Service Report R45288, Military Child Development Program: Background and Issues Updated March 19, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, it was reported, “... it is “likely or very likely” that child care issues would lead them to leave the military and those with pre-school-age children have reported that they are more likely to leave the military than their counterparts with school-age children”, according to Congressional Research Service Report R45288, Military Child Development Program: Background and Issues Updated March 19, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, a 2012 GAO study found that the Guard and Reserve are not aware of all the services available to them in local communities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Reserve Officers Association, d.b.a. Reserve Organization of America, urges Congress to extend the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account for the Uniformed Services to all reserve component members; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ROA urges Congress to recognize the importance of the military family readiness and provide assistance by implementing and providing for more adequate child care for reserve component families; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ROA urges the military services to report on the effectiveness of their child care programs as it relates to child care accessibility and affordability.