



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0111



February 28, 2002

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Honorable Bob Stump
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6035

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 541 of the Fiscal Year 2002 National Defense Authorization Act directs the Secretary of the Army to conduct a pilot program to determine if an eighteen-month enlistment option would increase participation of prior-service soldiers in the Selected Reserve and provide assistance in building the pool of participants in the Individual Ready Reserve. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of our planned implementation for this pilot program.

The Army will conduct the program and work with the Active Army and the Reserve Components to determine the specific specialties and incentives we will offer.

This pilot will be similar to the existing "2 + 2 + 4" program, where applicants enlist for two years of active duty, then two years in the Selected Reserve, followed by serving four years in the Individual Ready Reserve. Under the eighteen-month enlistment test, soldiers would enlist for eighteen months in the Active Army, at least three years in the Selected Reserve, followed by up to three and one-half years in the Individual Ready Reserve. Soldiers who enlist for the eighteen-month term of service will attend the same training as those who enlist for a longer term of service in the same specialty. Specialties with a total training time of less than five months are open to this option. After training, enlistees in this option are subject to both overseas and stateside assignments. We are in the process of establishing implementation guidance. As soon as we complete this process, we will forward a follow-up report outlining our plan in some detail. We expect to commence implementation on schedule.

have provided a similar letter to the Ranking Member of your Committee.

Sincerely,

Reginald J. Brown
Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Manpower and Reserve Affairs)