

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS)

2018 Report of the EANGUS Committee on RESOLUTIONS



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Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR18-01

Title: Eligibility For CONUS Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) For National Guard Enlisted Soldiers and Airmen Assigned to a Permanent Duty Station in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area (DCO53).

Description: Washington, D.C. has the second highest cost-of-living in the United States. Given various non-housing cost factors, National Guard Enlisted Soldiers and Airmen assigned to a Permanent Duty Station in the Military Housing Area: Washington, D.C. Metro Area (DCO53) should be eligible for CONUS Cost-of-living Allowance (COLA). Eligibility for this entitlement would benefit National Guard Enlisted Soldiers and Airmen from all 54 States, Territories, and the District of Columbia who are assigned to a Permanent Duty Station in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: Area II, NGB T-10 Chapter, Executive Council

Business Case: Higher costs of residing in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area leads to a high number of National Guard Enlisted Service Members assigned to the Washington, D.C. Metro Area not being able to affordably live near their Permanent Duty Station, nor near military bases that have a commissary or exchange. Many of our Enlisted Service Members are unable to partake in the cost savings afforded by the commissaries and exchanges as a result of the time and travel distance factors which currently are not taken into account when determining eligibility. Our Enlisted Service Members also have much longer commutes to and from their Permanent Duty Station requiring spending more time in their vehicles, and being away from their families, and spending more on gas and vehicle maintenance. Government Civilian employees assigned to the Washington, D.C. Metro Area are eligible for locality pay. The locality pay rate in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area is 4% higher than the locality rate for Government Civilian employees assigned to the Philadelphia area. This factor supports that, 1) there is a bona fide need for the locality pay in the Washington D.C. Metro Area, and 2) the cost of living in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area is greater than that of the Philadelphia area. The factors that support the need for Government Civilian employees to receive locality pay further supports the need for our Enlisted Service Members assigned to the Washington D.C. Metro Area to receive CONUS COLA. The eligibility for Basic Allowance for Housing that is received by Military personnel is not a factor when determining eligibility for CONUS COLA and so it should not be used as a factor that exempts Military personnel assigned to the Washington, D.C. Metro Area from receiving CONUS COLA. Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) is another factor used to determine eligibility for CONUS COLA however; Service Members assigned to the Washington, D.C. Metro Area do not receive a higher amount of BAS than Service Members assigned to the Philadelphia area. Additionally, data from the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the consumer price index for the Washington, D.C. Metro Area rose at a much higher rate over the period of August 2017 through March 2018 and is currently 11 points higher than the consumer price index of the Philadelphia area.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States recommends the 115th Congress amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (H.R. 2810) to compel the Department of Defense to incorporate an additional assessment in the next Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation of the eligibility for CONUS COLA for National Guard Enlisted Soldiers and Airmen assigned to a Permanent Duty Station in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area (DCO53) due to various factors that include but are not limited to; non-housing costs incurred as a result of the distance and required travel time spent commuting from the Primary Residence to the Permanent Duty Station, cost

savings lost due to distance and required travel time commuting from the Primary Residence to a military base with a commissary and exchange, and the high Consumer Price Index for the Washington D.C. Metro Area.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-02**

Title: Dual-Status Technician Maternity & Paternity Leave

Description: Dual-status federal technicians would like more comparable maternity/paternity leave to that of AGR's.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently, all federal technicians are authorized up to 12 weeks of unpaid maternity leave. This forces some technicians to use up their store of sick leave and/or annual leave and can cause financial burden. Active Guard Reservists currently receive 12 weeks of paid maternity leave or 2 weeks of paid paternity leave.

Recommendation: Allow Dual-Status Federal Technicians to receive up to 12 weeks of paid maternity leave and 2 weeks of paid paternity leave, similar to AGR benefits.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-03**

Title: Mothers of Military Service Leave Act

Description: Support for proposed S1721.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: There is currently a proposed bill (S1721).

Recommendation: Continue to push for the approval of S1721.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-04**

Title: Recoupment or Termination of incentives after receiving Technician or AGR positions.

Description: Allow new hires for Technician and AGR positions to be allowed to keep their current incentive contracts.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently Soldiers and Airmen who have enlistment incentives risk losing their incentives if they get hired into a Technician or AGR position. This is reducing the number of applicants for positions and causing financial hardships for those who are willing to take that risk.

Recommendation: We would like to allow new hires for Technician and AGR positions within their current career field to be allowed to keep their current incentive contracts.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-05**

Title: Concurrent Receipt of Federal Tuition Assistance (TA) and MGIB

Description: College students are not authorized to utilize FTA and MGIB concurrently.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Change 3 to DoDI 1322.5 Para 1k that occurred in July of 2014 removed the allowance for service members to utilize more than one assistance program at the same time. The removal of this benefit has been detrimental to recruiting and retention for the National Guard nationwide.

Recommendation: Allow college students to utilize both Federal TA and MGIB concurrently.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-06**

Title: Allow Bonus Incentives for All National Guard Service Members

Description: Rank and time-in-service currently prevent Army National Guard soldiers from receiving reenlistment benefits.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently service members are not allowed any type of bonus incentive after serving 13 years, or after obtaining the rank of E-7. These service members are lumped into a category called “Lifers” and are expected to remain committed to the National Guard for retirement and medical benefits. Currently, service members who have not yet reached these earmarks are eligible for re-enlistment bonus. If these younger, more inexperienced service members are being pursued for re-enlistment this heavily, it only makes sense to offer some type of bonus incentive to those individuals who have a deeper wealth of knowledge and skill. However, with an understanding that this group of “Lifers” is likely more inclined to remain in the National Guard for other reasons, the incentives would not need to be nearly as extravagant. Also, dependent only on career field, the Air National Guard has no ranking or service stipulations for traditional service members to receive bonus incentives.

Recommendation: Considering the immense value of those men and women who have served 13 years and/or obtained the rank of E-7, and in an effort to retain a lethal force, we should continue to offer these individuals re-enlistment bonuses, similar to the Air National Guard.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-07**

Title: Allow National Guard Airmen to receive education benefits comparable to National Guard Soldiers

Description: The Army National Guard offers student loan repayment program incentives, while the Air National Guard has no comparable program.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently, there are no student loan repayment incentives offered to airmen in the South Dakota Air National Guard. The G.I. Bill and tuition assistance incentives are great benefits for airmen, but for those who have already received a college education at the time of enlistment, there should be an equal incentive to lessen the burden of student loans and reward them for the work they've already done in furthering their education. It is important for our National Guard branches to offer enlistees equal benefits. Because the Army National Guard has a student loan repayment program for its soldiers, the Air National Guard should be able to offer these same benefits.

Recommendation: Allow airmen receive student loan repayment benefits to mirror those offered by the Army National Guard to repay federal student loans up to an amount of \$50,000.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-08**

Title: Technician re-enlistment incentive eligibility.

Description: Allow Technicians of the National Guard to be fully eligible for reenlistment incentives.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently M-day Soldiers and Airmen are allowed to receive re-enlistment incentives (bonus, Montgomery GI Bill Kicker, or Student Loan Repayment) but Technicians of the National Guard are not allowed re-enlistment incentives because of their full-time career. This resolution was disapproved by the body at the 2016 National EANGUS conference and therefore we need to continue to push the issue. Currently M-day Soldiers and Airmen are allowed to receive re-enlistment incentives (bonus, Montgomery GI Bill Kicker, or Student Loan Repayment) but Technicians of the National Guard are not allowed re-enlistment incentives because of their full-time career.

Recommendation: We would like allow Technicians of the National Guard to be fully eligible for reenlistment incentives.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-09**

Title: AGR re-enlistment incentive eligibility.

Description: Allow AGR's of the National Guard to be fully eligible for reenlistment incentives.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently Active Duty Soldiers are allowed to receive re-enlistment incentives (bonus, Montgomery GI Bill Kicker, or Student Loan Repayment) but AGR's of the National Guard are not allowed re-enlistment incentives.

Recommendation: We would like to allow AGR's of the National Guard to be fully eligible for re-enlistment incentives.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-10**

Title: Tricare gap Government shutdown coverage

Description: To ensure all ADOS Soldiers on orders thirty days or longer continue to have Tricare coverage for at least 45 days in the event of a government shutdown.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: EANGUT - Utah

Business Case: During a government shutdown, all federal employees will continue to work but without pay. All Guardsmen who are on ADOS orders, to include ADOS Soldiers supporting Mobilizing Units, will see a break in their orders until the shutdown is over. And until they have new active duty orders cut. This means that their Tricare coverage is ceased on the first day that they are no longer on orders.

Tricare should have a coverage period of 45 days for those workers who lose their healthcare as a result of an unexpected shutdown. This coverage would be an extension of the Tricare services that they had prior to the shutdown for both the Guardsmen and their families. It will be similar to the medical coverage that a Soldier has for 90 days after a deployment, TAMP Transitional Health Care Programs.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation that would allow for the extension of Tricare for Guardsmen and Airmen who have lost medical coverage as a result and during a government shutdown.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-11**

Title: Assistance to Air Guardsmen Completing Application for Retirement

Description: Assistance to Air Guardsmen Completing Application for Retirement

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: Wyoming

Business Case: Many Air Guardsmen retire with several years between their retirement and their date of eligibility to receive benefits. Many of these retirees may not have the expertise to complete their application for retirement and need assistance in completing their application.

Recommendation: The Air National Guard Return the Retiree Services/Liaison position to an authorized position in the Wings of the Air Guard.

Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution

NR18-12

Title: Decentralization of Air National Guard Funding for Recruiting Advertising

Description: Centralized Funding for Air Guard Funding becomes prohibitive at the State and Wing Level for Recruiting Advertising in effectively executing of the Recruiting Mission.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: Wyoming

Business Case: Centralized control of funding at the Air National Guard Headquarters seems to cause a “Cookie Cutter” approach to funding for Recruiting Advertising for the Air National Guard. This makes it extremely difficult to execute a Recruiting Mission at the State and Wing Level.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Headquarters of the Air National Guard to Decentralized funding for Recruiting Advertising to the Wing Level based on substantiated funding requirements and not use the current funding model as it puts the Air National Guard at an operational disadvantage when recruiting.

Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution NR18-13

Title: ANG Tuition Assistance Equality

Description: To ensure the Air National Guard has the same ability to achieve mandatory prerequisites for promotion through funding a Tuition Assistance Program like the Army's.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: Montana

Business Case: In October 2015, a 2-year Community College of the Air Force degree (Associates) became a mandatory prerequisite for promotion to the ranks of E-8 (Senior Master Sergeant) and E-9 (Chief Master Sergeant) in the Air National Guard. As a comparative to the other components, the Air National Guard is the only component who does not fund attaining this requirement. The United States Air Force (title 10), and the Air Force Reserve do. As well as the United States Army and Army National Guard, through their respective Tuition/Federal Tuition Assistance Programs. The only way a title 32 Drill Status ANG Airman can access the USAF tuition assistance is when they are either activated (deployed in a title 10 status) or serving on status under MPA (manpower request Authorization which is title 10 status also) or on Active Guard Reserve Title 32 Status.

State Tuition assistance has been leveraged as a substitute for ANG force wide funding. The challenge of course is while it is great for the Airmen in the states who have a robust TA program it is not so great for the states that do not. For example, if a state has a great TA offering, they win because they have a recruiting tool to draw an Airman from the weaker states who can't compete. This can (and does) adversely affect end strength for the less resourced state. (MT state to state transfers are in large part due to more attractive education resources in other states which comprised 40% of last year's losses). Therefore, we are not a united ANG rather we compete with each other's manpower resources.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the United States Air Force and/or Air National Guard to fund tuition assistance fairly for all members, including its Guardsmen.

Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution NR18-14

Title: Pilot Program for a combined Department of Defense (DoD) University

Description: Encourage EANGUS to pursue the exploration of a pilot program for a DoD-wide University

Proposal Type: New Submission

Submitter: EANGKS/Area IV/Legislative Committee

Business Case: Service members currently do not receive university credits for military education, experience, or training. Furthermore, universities that receive VA or DoD funds are not required to accept the American Council on Education's (ACE) recommendations of credit for military service.

Often, many students' waste valuable time and money taking redundant classes that are avoidable duplicates of previous courses the service member has already completed.

Currently, ACE provides quality assurance and policy guidance for the Joint Services Transcript (JST) used across DoD. Moreover, the Air Force awards college credits for training and professional military education through the Community College of the Air Force. Since universities are not bound to accept the council's credit recommendations, service members could be forced by universities to retake courses they completed while in military service, which wastes the service members' GI Bill benefits and government funds. Often, when a credit is awarded to a service member as a general elective credit, it does not fill any specific degree requirement. It may look good on a transcript to increase the total number of credits the student has, but it is not productive towards helping them complete their degree. Additionally, service members who are qualified in a vocation within their respective service do not receive any credit from vocational schools.

The increased partnership between universities and the DoD regarding educational credit will increase military readiness by creating a professional and ready force. Holding universities accountable for receiving federal dollars from service members and allowing military vocational training credit will help service members not only improve their mission readiness but allow more effective use of federal military tuition assistance.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges exploration of a pilot program to create a combined DoD-wide University that will give educational and vocational credit to members of the Armed Services based on professional military education and military training.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-15**

Title: Implementing Space-A for National Guardsmen, Reservists, "Gray Area" Retirees and their Dependents, and Eligible Surviving Spouses and their Dependents

Description: To implement law that was passed as part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: Hawaii

Business Case: The space-available travel law was included in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013 and should now be providing equal benefits to active and reserve-component members, eligible surviving spouses and others the Secretary of Defense may deem as eligible.

The Secretary of Defense should have, by now, established a priority order of travel for eligible members. The department has not implemented the law, nor updated the regulations needed.

Currently, some National Guardsmen, Reservists, "gray area" retirees and their dependents, and eligible surviving spouses and their dependents are being denied these travel privileges. Asking the Secretary of Defense to quickly implement the law will help ensure that those benefits are available to those who are deserving of them.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Secretary of Defense to implement the law that expands space-available travel to all National Guardsmen, Reservists, "Gray Area" Retirees and their Dependents, and Eligible Surviving Spouses and their Dependents.

Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution NR18-16

Title: Amend Veterans Opportunity to Work Act National Guard Requirements

Description: Current guidance mandates members to complete Transition Assistance Program requirements when on Title 10 orders for 180+ days.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: Iowa

Business Case: Current guidance mandates members to complete Transition Assistance Program (TAP) requirements when on Title 10 orders for 180+ days. The focus of this program is the transition to civilian careers post-military commitment. Program requirements include: Pre-Separation Counseling (4 hours), VA Benefits I & II Briefing (6 hours), Transition Goals Plans Success (TGPS) Workshop – unless exempt (40 hours), and CAPSTONE Career Readiness Standards: eBenefits registration, DOL Gold Card, Individual Transition Plan, GAP Analysis, Interest Profiler, 12-month budget, and Resume/Job Acceptance Letter (4 hours).

National Guard members with full-time employment or student status are able to exempt out of the TGPS workshop. However, these transitioning Service Members are required to complete all other portions of the program totaling a minimum of fourteen hours. More than fifty percent of the programs discussed during Pre-Separation Counseling provide job-placement assistance to individuals that are not seeking new employment or career change. These members are also required to complete irrelevant tasks such as a transition plan to analyze future employment and a budget although they have not proven fiscal irresponsibility. Current necessity for the state of Iowa mandates that the 950 members serving 180 days or more on Title 10, require the Transition Assistance Program. At a minimum, compliance will necessitate 30,200 hours of member time on the Transition Assistance Program plus an additional 400 hours of staffing requirements per month. This cost equates to roughly \$675,000 for the state of Iowa given the current deployment requirements.

The Transition Assistance Program focuses on many of the programs that already exist and are available to members throughout the military life cycle. Since TAP requires immense staffing, other programs do not receive adequate attention or marketing. Furthermore, the Transition Advisor, Citizen Soldier for Life, resume assistance, Military OneSource, Personal Financial Counselor, the Department of Labor, VA Representatives, Legal office, Voting Assistance, Education office, and eBenefits are duplicative.

In order to be in compliance with the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act, National Guard Service Members must complete the program while on Title 10 orders. To meet this law, Soldiers and Airman are being tasked to complete the VA Benefits briefing and Career Readiness Standards during deployment. Members do not receive additional days on orders or funding to meet these requirements at home-station before or after deployment. Service members are being impacted by the added distraction of this curriculum effecting mission execution. Current missions include members completing Title 10 orders and returning to the same position in a Title 32 technician or AGR status the following day. TAP mandates impede the seamless transition between status conversion for these members.

Recommendation: Revise the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act to provide leniency for National Guard members by giving flexibility of program requirements to Squadron/Company Commanders.

Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution NR18-17

Title: Support of the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS).

Description: EANGUS will continue to support the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) that contribute to the accomplishment of the purposes and goals of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS).

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: EANGUS Resolutions Committee

Business Case: Multiple force structure, mission and equipment issues are of interest to our membership. EANGUS is unable to address the multitude of these issues and must focus on “people” issues in support of our enlisted force. A single resolution provides the EANGUS leadership the flexibility to address the non-personnel issues as the opportunity arises and resources permit. EANGUS is dedicated to promoting the status, welfare, and professionalism of the men and women of the Army and Air National Guard. Our goal is to provide quality, motivated, professional soldiers, airmen, noncommissioned officers to the National Guard. Our primary focus is to accomplish our purpose and goals in the best interest of the National Guard Enlisted Force. Issues of force structure, missions, and effective equipment to accomplish those missions are more appropriately addressed by NGAUS and AGAUS.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States continues to pledge support to those NGAUS and AGAUS initiatives that contribute to the accomplishment of the EANGUS purpose and goals.

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
NR18-18**

Title: EANGUS appreciation of Charleston, West Virginia, the West Virginia Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary

Description: Appreciation for the Hospitality and Efforts by the State of West Virginia, the City of Charleston and the West Virginia Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary.

Proposal Type: New

Submitter: EANGUS Resolutions Committee

Business Case: The 47th General Conference of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States met in Charleston, WV from 12 through 15 August 2018. The City of Charleston and the West Virginia Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary acted as gracious hosts and hostesses to their fellow National Guard members, their spouses and guests. The tireless efforts and dedication of the West Virginia Conference Committee made significant contributions to ensure an incredibly successful General Conference.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States commends the State of West Virginia, the City of Charleston and the West Virginia Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary for the support they have given and outstanding hospitality they have extended to make the 47th General Conference most successful and memorable.

Resolutions Not Carried

18-04	Continued contribution to The Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) after expiration of service obligation	SD
18-13	EMAC Title 32 for Declared National Emergencies	WY

**Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution
(Draft) 18-04**

Title: Continued contribution to The Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) after expiration of service obligation

Description: Service members are not authorized to continue contributing to their TSP account following completion of their service obligation.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: The Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) is a wonderful benefit to our service members because of its low administration fees and management flexibility. However, when a service member leaves the service they are not able to continue contribution to this program. This does not apply to service members who leave the service and are still federally employed.

Recommendation: Allow service members to continue contributing to their TSP accounts after completing their mandatory service obligation.

Enlisted Association National Guard of the United States Resolution (Draft) 18-13

Title: EMAC Title 32 for Declared National Emergencies

Description: Governors have difficulties in sending National Guard Personnel in response to a National Disaster due to reimbursement issues from going State to State during the planning of Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).

Proposal Type: New Submission

Submitter: Wyoming

Business Case: Under the EMAC, states must fund upfront the costs of State Active Duty and wait for reimbursement from the supported state. This causes consternation from Governors in supporting other States in an emergency. The supported state most of the time, receives funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and then reimburse States that support the operation. Under EMAC, funding could flow from FEMA directly to the States that support directly the National Disaster, making it easier to send Guardsmen in a Title 32 Status.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to allow in a Federally Declared Disaster the direct funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to the National Guard Bureau and States supporting the recovery efforts for the Disaster, thus making funding not a determining factor in the decision to support another state in the execution of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), allowing the execution of an EMAC in a Title 32 status when performing duties for Natural Disaster Recovery.

Resolutions Withdrawn

NR18-04	Automatic re-enrollment in Tricare Reserve Select (TRS) and current dental carrier after Active Duty (AD) time in which Tricare Prime automatically kicked in.	SD
NR18-05	Re-enlistment incentives for Soldiers re-enlisting to meet mandatory service obligations (MSO)	SD
NR18-08	Recoupment or Termination of incentives for changing career management fields (MOS or AFSC)	SD
NR18-09	TriCare Retired Reserve rate re-evaluation for grey area retirees	SD
NR18-10	Technician Compatibility	SD
NR18-11	Ensure Reserve Component (RC) health care benefits eligibility for all RC personnel regardless of employment or employer.	SD
NR18-24	Establish Reserve Component retirement age parity with Active Component and meet the original intent of retirement program changes adopted in NDAA 2015.	HI

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution
(Draft) NR18-04

Title: Automatic re-enrollment in Tricare Reserve Select (TRS) and current dental carrier after Active Duty (AD) time in which Tricare Prime automatically kicked in.

Description: Continue to push for carriers to auto-enroll soldiers back into TRS and dental coverage following Active Duty service.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: If you are currently enrolled in TriCare Reserve Select but go on Active Duty orders for over 30 days you automatically are enrolled into Tricare Prime and Active Duty Dental. When your orders end, so does your health and dental insurance and the providers do not remind you that you have to re-apply for TriCare Reserve Select or dental coverage. Numerous Soldiers have re-applied for TRS shortly before their orders ended but their application was not processed because they were on AD orders. There seems to be a large disconnect between DEERS and TriCare in regard to the length of AD orders. This has left many Soldiers and their families without coverage. This resolution was approved by the body at the National EANGUS conference, but the changes have not yet been approved and therefore we need to continue to push the issue.

Recommendation: We would like TriCare and dental carriers to auto-enroll you back into TriCare Reserve Select and dental coverage if you were enrolled before the long tour Active Duty orders

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution
(Draft) NR18-05

Title: Re-enlistment incentives for Soldiers re-enlisting to meet mandatory service obligations (MSO).

Description: Remove the restrictions on incentive eligibility to include soldiers and airmen who are more than 365 days away from their ETS date.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently you are only eligible for an incentive (bonus, Montgomery GI Bill Kicker, or Student Loan Repayment) if you are 365 days or closer to your ETS. Some Soldiers and Airmen have to re-enlist before their 1-year window to meet an MSO for their career progression. This resolution was approved by the body at the 2016 National EANGUS conference but the changes have not yet been approved and therefore we need to continue to push the issue.

Recommendation: We would like Soldiers and Airmen to be eligible for the same incentives that they would be eligible for if they were in the 1-year window.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution

(Draft) NR18-08

Title: Recoupment or Termination of incentives for changing career management fields (MOS or AFSC).

Description: Allow Soldiers and Airmen to keep their incentives when changing career fields so long as the new field is also eligible for incentives.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Soldiers and Airmen who currently have enlistment incentives risk losing their incentives if they change their career management field. Only some career management fields are eligible for incentives but even if you move from one field to another and they both have incentive eligibility, you will be recouped your incentive for voluntarily changing fields. Some positions are extremely hard to fill via lateral moves because the applicants would lose their incentives, causing financial hardship and stalling their progression in the military. This would hopefully increase the number of applicants for positions and help units select the most qualified for the position. This resolution was approved by the body at the National EANGUS conference, but the changes have not yet been approved and therefore we need to continue to push the issue.

Recommendation: We would like Soldiers and Airmen to be allowed to keep their incentives when changing career fields so long as the new field is also eligible for incentives.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution
(Draft) NR18-09

Title: TriCare Retired Reserve rate re-evaluation for grey area retirees.

Description: TriCare Retired Reserve Rates are offered at a cost too expensive for most service members to afford coverage between their retirement age and the time they reach age 60.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Current Soldiers who retire with 20 good years of service in the National Guard are eligible for TriCare Retired Reserve health insurance, but the rates are unfortunately very high for the time between their retirement and age 60. This resolution was approved by the body at the National EANGUS conference, but the changes have not yet been approved and therefore we need to continue to push the issue.

Recommendation: We would like to recommend a re-evaluation of the TriCare Retired Reserve Rates to ensure that our retirees are offered exceptional coverage at a reasonable price.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution
(Draft) NR18-10

Title: Technician compatibility.

Description: Amend Technician Personnel Regulation 303 to allow technicians to hold a wider variety of M-day positions in their drilling unit.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Currently Technicians are limited on the positions that they can hold in a TDA/MTOE/UMDA unit due to the Technician Personnel Regulation 303. This resolution was approved by the body at the National EANGUS conference, but the changes have not yet been approved and therefore we need to continue to push the issue.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Technician Personnel Regulation 303 be re-evaluated to specifically look at the Technician compatibility hindrances.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution

(Draft) NR18-11

Title: Reserve Component (RC) health care benefits eligibility for all RC personnel regardless of employment or employer.

Description: Dual-status federal employees are mandated to utilize FEHB and cannot choose Tricare Reserve Select as their health insurance.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: South Dakota

Business Case: Section 706 of the FY07 NDAA authorized TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) for all National Guard Members and their families, however, the language was inserted into the statute which prohibits eligibility to enroll in TRS if the member is enrolled or eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 89 of Title 5, or better known as “Federal Employee Health Benefits” (FEHB) program. This exclusion is codified in Title 10 U.S.C. Section 1076d, (a)(2). This exclusion affects all National Guard Technicians as well as all members working for other government agencies who participate in the FEHB Program. As many as 50,000 Guard members are prohibited from choosing TRS as a family coverage option due to this restriction. In some cases, currently, the rates for TRS can be nearly half the cost of the least expensive coverage option under the FEHB, making TRS the better option for many Guard Members who are currently not eligible. Eliminating this restriction will allow Guard Technicians greater choice in selecting the health care plan which best meets their family’s needs. This resolution was approved by the body at the National EANGUS conference, but the changes have not yet been approved and therefore we need to continue to push the issue.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to amend Title 10 U.S.C. Section 1067d (a) by deleting paragraph two which creates an exclusion in TRICARE eligibility for anyone eligible for health benefits under Chapter 89 of Title 5 (Federal Employee Health Benefit Program)

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States Resolution

(Draft) NR18-24

Title: Retirement Age for the Guard and Reserve

Description: Establish Reserve Component retirement age parity with Active Component and meet the original intent of retirement program changes adopted in NDAA 2015.

Proposal Type: Resubmission

Submitter: Hawaii

Business Case: Reserve Component (RC) members of the Department of Defense who serve 20 years or more earn a retirement benefit proportional to their time in uniform, however, they are not able to receive payment from the benefit until they reach the age of 60. Active Component retirees can receive their retirement benefit immediately upon retirement. RC members take the same oath to serve and protect our country as the active component, making the same sacrifices to time, community, nation and family. They have proven themselves to be a required part of this Nations call to defense, both at home and abroad. They are a true operational reserve to the Total Force. RC members deserve parity of the retirement age with the active component. Removing the age restriction and making it equal to the active components rule of eligibility immediately upon separation of service after 20 years helps to secure the future of our all-volunteer force, particularly the Citizen-Soldier. Changes in the Department of Defense Retirement Program that were adopted in the NDAA 2015 were originally aimed at lowering the retirement age for the RC. The language of the bill said that service members would be eligible to draw their new retirement immediately upon retirement age. For the Active Component, that retirement age stayed the same, immediately upon separation from the service after 20 years. For RC service members, however, retirement age is still defined as the age of 60, despite the original intent from Congress.

Recommendation: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to support legislation that would change 10 U.S.C. Chapter 1223 by removing the "60 years of age" restriction on Reserve Component Members who have served 20 years and earned a retirement benefit from the Department of Defense before they can receive retirement compensation.

2017 EANGUS Resolutions – Current Standing Resolutions (No Action Taken)

- NR17-01 Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer Eligibility Benefit (TEB) for Retirees
- NR17-02 Tricare coverage for service members outside of their authorized medical region
- NR17-03 Inclusion of Chiropractic care and Acupuncture into Tricare plans
- NR17-04 Joint Readiness Oversight
- NR17-05 Health Care Benefit Enhancement
- NR17-06 Expanding the Military Student Identifier (MSI) in the “Every Student Succeeds Act”
- NR17-07 Duty Status Reform and Title 10 USC §12304b Disparity
- NR17-08 Tricare as an eligible option under FEHB for Military Technicians
- NR17-09 EANGUS Executive Council authority to act on legislative and policy proposals not addressed by the resolutions process
- NR17-10 Remove 10 US Code - 115 USC 1095 Rule - Personnel Strengths: Requirement for Annual Authorization
- NR17-11 Adjusting the Tax Burden for those Veterans using the Disability Discharge for Student Loans
- NR17-12 Technician Voluntary Leave Transfer (VLT) Program
- NR17-13 Boosting Military Technician leave from 120 hours to 160 hours
- NR17-14 Mission Support Resourcing for Reach Back ISR Missions
- NR17-15 Retiree Health Care
- NR17-16 ~~Support of the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) (Continual Support)~~
- NR17-17 ~~EANGUS appreciation of Reno, Nevada, the Nevada Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States and Auxiliary (Accomplished during the Conference)~~

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-01**

TITLE: Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer Eligibility Benefit (TEB) for Retirees

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Allowing for the transfer of Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefits for service members who have retired and are ineligible to complete a new Military Service Obligation (MSO).

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Kentucky

BUSINESS CASE: Public Law 110-252 (Title 38, U.S.C. § 3319) established the ability for Service Members to transfer their Post 9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to eligible dependents. DODI 1341.13 states, “An individual may not add family members after retirement or separation from the Uniformed Services.”

Members who were in the window of retirement when the law was established were unaware of the benefits or unclear on the guidance due to the program being new at the time. The National Guard members who retired during the birth of this program were not aware of the benefits they were entitled to because the program was not immediately distributed in its entirety to all National Guard members of the military.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Office of the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness changes DODI 1341.13 to allow Service Members of the National Guard that have served honorably over 20 years and who retired between 01 August 2009 – 01 August 2013 to be eligible for Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Benefit (TEB).

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-02**

TITLE: Tricare coverage for service members outside of their authorized medical region

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Tricare is not authorized for service members or their family when they are outside of their coverage region, even if for medical necessity to save a life; to include the authorization of treatment plans and cancer related care. This also applies to coverage during any and all emergency room visits, short term, and long term medical stays in relation to Emergency Room Visits.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Utah

BUSINESS CASE: If a family is inside of their Tricare based medical region, all emergency room visits, even those that result in short and long-term stays, are covered under the plan. Medical coverage inside of their region also includes imaging and treatment plans for medical services, even cancer related care. These are all classified as a medical necessity to save a life. However, if the service member or any of his family members are outside of their region, regardless of the condition or need of attention, an authorization is required. Receiving this authorization can be a lengthy process and not approved in a timely enough manner to save a life or ensure that the immediate treatment is received. The authorization to seek immediate medical attention, treatment, and services (including those imaging, long term treatment plans, or cancer related care) should not be dependent on a lengthy authorization process. Emergency needs and services should be approved regardless of the medical coverage region that the Tricare recipient is in.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation that would allow these emergency and lifesaving services and long-term treatment plans on the approved list of medical services a Tricare Recipient can seek regardless of the medical coverage region that they are in at the time the service is needed.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR17-03

TITLE: Inclusion of Chiropractic care and Acupuncture into Tricare plans

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Chiropractic and acupuncture services are not included as authorized services under Tricare.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Minnesota

BUSINESS CASE: Following decades of inaction and neglect on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the process of integrating chiropractic care into the VA health care delivery system was initiated during the past decade, but only after Congress enacted a series of statutes (Including PL 107-135 and PL 108-170) that included specific directives instructing the VA to hire doctors of chiropractic and place them at VA health care facilities. Prior to the intervention of Congress, no doctors of chiropractic served on the staff of any VA treatment facility and the availability of the services delivered by doctors of chiropractic for eligible veterans was limited to VA “referrals” to those doctors serving in private practice outside of the VA system. Such referrals were so rarely provided, that as a practical matter, it would be fair to say that access to the services provided by doctors of chiropractic within the VA system was virtually nonexistent until Congress took action to address that glaring deficiency. As a result of the previous referenced congressional directives, including recommendations issued by a congressionally-mandated advisory committee, the VA (as of early 2015) currently provides access to a Doctor of Chiropractic at just over 50 major VA treatment facilities within the U.S.

Despite the above progress, the overwhelming majority of America’s eligible veterans continue to be denied access to chiropractic care, because the VA has failed to take any significant action to provide chiropractic care at nearly 100 additional major VA treatment facilities that comprise the major sites where VA care is offered. The VA has no doctors of chiropractic on staff at these locations and referrals to doctors of chiropractic care outside of VA’s system are rarely provided at these and other location. Virtually all major VA service organizations have formally testified in support of enacting new legislation to correct this deficiency.

The disparity has been allowed to continue, despite important data demonstrating a critical need within the VA for the specific type of health care doctors of chiropractic specialize in providing. Past Department of Veterans Affairs data (Analysis of VA Health Care Utilization Among Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) Veterans) cite “diseases of Musculoskeletal System/Connective System,” such as back pain, as the number one ailment of Iraq/Afghanistan veterans accessing VA treatment.

Recently, the Joint Commission, an independent non-profit organization that certifies more than 20,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including every major hospital, revised its pain management standard to include chiropractic services. Clinical experts in pain management who provide input to the Commission’s standards affirmed that treatment strategies may consider both pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic approaches. Services provided by doctors of chiropractic (who were recognized in 2009 as “physicians” by the Commission are now included in the standard of care for pain management, effective January 2015.

The treatment plan offered by DCs is a non-pharmacologic approach to pain management. The Joint Commission standard advises facilities, when considering the use of medications to treat pain, to weigh both the benefits to the patient, as well as the potential risks of dependency, addiction, and abuse of opioids.

In 2015, during the 114th Congress, the Senate passed S. 1203, the 21st Century Veterans Benefits Delivery Act, which contains a provision that phases-in the services of doctors of chiropractic at more VA major medical facilities over several years and codifies chiropractic as a standard benefit for veterans accessing VA care. In the House of Representatives, Rep. Alan Grayson (FL) introduced HR 1170, the Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act, which mirrors the chiropractic provision found in S. 1203. Neither bill ever became law.

The 115th Congress has similar bills also introduced: S. 609 from SEN Jerry Moran (KS), HR 2251 from Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA) and HR 103 from Rep. Julia Brownley (CA).

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation similar to S. 609, HR 2251, or HR 103, that would make chiropractic and acupuncture services an included service in all Tricare coverage plans.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR17-04

TITLE: Joint Readiness Oversight

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Improvement of readiness and medical oversight across the Department of Defense with recommendations similar to the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCRMC), Health Benefits, Recommendation 5.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Minnesota

BUSINESS CASE: Joint Military Readiness and Medical Readiness is a critical function of modern military warfare and some very hard lessons have been learned across the Department of Defense since September 11, 2001. Losing any part of the lessons or any of the joint capabilities will degrade the effectiveness of future military operations. With reason troop drawdowns overseas, the DOD is now at a critical point for maintaining those lessons learned that have helped us to sustain such a ready and available force. Standards of readiness and medical readiness are different across all branches of the military, as well as across the active and reserve components. The establishment of a Joint Readiness Command to unify those standards across the DOD will ensure that the lesson's learned over the last several years are maintained as well as enforce medical standards for military medical personnel and those military personnel receiving treatment. The establishment of a subordinate joint medical command will ensure that all services will be unified when it comes to capabilities through Essential Medical Capabilities (EMC's), allowing for joint level operations anywhere in the world, at any time.

Primary goal is to maintain the All-Volunteer Force

- A critical element of the Force is joint readiness
- There are challenges to maintaining readiness capabilities in peacetime

For example, in medical readiness:

- Military medical requirements are not jointly developed and do not have a high-level joint focus
- Beneficiary care does not provide the best training opportunities to maintain clinical skills directly related to medical readiness, which leads to a misalignment of military medical personnel
- Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) would benefit from a different case mix, but DoD has limited means to affect workload or access to trauma-care cases
- Flow of health care funding does not allow for distinction between military medical readiness and delivering medical care to beneficiaries

MCRMC Recommendation would:

- Improve the oversight of joint medical readiness with a newly established Joint Readiness Command and a Joint Staff Medical Readiness Directorate
- Establish Essential Medical Capabilities (EMCs) to ensure certain critical medical capabilities in the military

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation similar to the MCRMC Recommendation 5.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-05**

TITLE: Health Care Benefit Enhancement

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Improvement of the Department of Defense Health Care Benefits and programs with recommendations similar to the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCRMC), Health Benefits, Recommendation 6.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Minnesota

BUSINESS CASE: Through the course of the research and development of the MCRMC's recommendations, in regards to health care, several of the findings revealed concerns and issues with the current TRICARE health benefit program, all across the Department of Defense. Low reimbursement rates, limited family access with a frustrating referral process, lack of choices in needed or desired care, and some of the programs structural aspects have shown to hinder advancements and efficient operations of health care services. The MCRMC looked at several aspects of the DOD's TRICARE benefit and then made multiple recommendations to help streamline healthcare across the forces, the way beneficiaries access health care, the choices that they will have regarding care, and the overall value of the benefit. In regards to the reserve component, transition periods from civilian provided health care to TRICARE eligible providers often cause major burdens to families and could be alleviated by providing reserve component members and their families with option packages that better align with the needs of the family, as well as the networked provider. This option could potentially come with health care funding from the DOD to reimburse the service member for the cost of their private health care insurance in lieu of the TRICARE they are not using. These recommendations from the MCRMC could also open up specific individualized care not currently afforded to service members under the existing TRICARE program.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation to establish a variety of new and mixture of existing health care programs that offer beneficiaries a selection of health care plans and adopts health care enhancements similar to Recommendation 6 of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission final report without exceeding the current costs of Tricare nor degrading or lessening the quality of benefits.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-06**

TITLE: Expanding the Military Student Identifier (MSI) in the “Every Student Succeeds Act”

SHORT DESCRIPTION: The Military Student Identifier (MSI) used in the “Every Student Succeeds Act” is limited to tracking just the parents and students of Active Duty service members and excludes the Reserve Component.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Minnesota

BUSINESS CASE: President Obama signed S. 1177, the “Every Student Succeeds Act” (Public Law 114-95) on December 10, 2015. The law requires states to better track and report about homeless, foster care, and military-connected students. Among the provisions in the legislation is the creation of a military student identifier (MSI). This identifier excludes students with a parent who serves in the Reserve Component.

A recent Department of Defense Demographics Report indicates that there are more than approximately 400,000 military-connected school-aged students of the National Guard and Reserve components. They reside within all fifty states, yet are almost hidden from public recognition as being from a military family. The parents of these children deploy globally in response to our nation’s call, just as the active duty service members do. They also deploy within their respective state in response to state emergencies, directives, or while in training.

“Gone is gone” for a child of the respective service member, regardless of the reason for parental absence. These children live with continual stressors and transition adjustments that their civilian classmates do not experience. In H. Rept. 114-354, the congressional conferees expressed, “intent that States and districts may also include students with a parent in the National Guard or Reserves as part of the group of students with a parent who is an active member of the Armed Forces.”

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation to Amend 20 U.S.C. §6311 (h)(1)(C)(ii) to strike the words “on active duty” to enable dependent children from Reserve Component members to receive the same benefits as their Active Duty counterparts.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-07**

TITLE: Duty Status Reform and Title 10 USC §12304b Disparity

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Support Reduction of National Guard and Reserve Duty Statuses & Solve 10 U.S.C. §12304b Duty Status Disparity

PROPOSAL TYPE: Resubmission

SUBMITTER: Minnesota

BUSINESS CASE: S. 1356, The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) requested the Department of Defense (DOD) submit a report to Congress regarding consolidation of statutory authorities by which members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces may be ordered to perform duty. The Department conducted its study and officials will brief the Congressional Defense Committees about its findings to decrease duty statuses to four, down from thirty-two. The findings of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission's final report from 2015 similarly recommended a dramatic decrease in duty statuses.

There is a disparity in benefits currently not attributed to Guard and Reserve Service members deploying under 10 U.S.C. §12304b status. Since its creation in 2012, to give Combatant Commanders authority to utilize the Reserve Component, 12304b has been a mechanism used at increasing man hour rates per year. However benefits such as tuition assistance, early retirement credit, transitional healthcare access, and Post-9/11 G.I. Bill are not funded under 10 U.S.C. §12304b status. Those who served under this authority should have benefits retroactively awarded. National Guard and Reserves members deploy in support of operational support to the nation, and should receive the same benefits and entitlements as those serving alongside them on active duty.

The 115th Congress has two bills introduced to address this issue; S667 from Sen. Al Franken (MN) and HR 1384 from Rep. Steven Palazzo (MS).

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation similar to HR1384 and S667 that would reduce the number of Guard and Reserve Duty Statuses to four as recommended by the Department of Defense, fund all benefits currently not attributed to Guard and Reserve Service members deploying under 10 U.S.C. §12304b Duty Status, and rescinding or revising U.S.C. §12304b.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-08**

TITLE: Tricare as an eligible option under FEHB for Military Technicians

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Military Technicians are not allowed to use any version of Tricare as their health insurance program, nor are traditional Reserve Component service members eligible for FEHB.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Minnesota

BUSINESS CASE: According to a 2014 Demographics report, Profile of the Military Community provided by militaryoneSource.mil, there are 831,992 Selected Reserve personnel. Forty-two percent are in the Army National Guard and nearly thirteen percent are Air National Guard. Most EANGUS members participate in TRICARE Prime, TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS), TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR), and TRICARE for Life (TFL).

TRICARE Prime is for Reservists on active duty status: mobilized, Active Guard and Reserve (AGR), Active Duty Operational Support (ADOS), Full Time National Guard Duty (FTNGD), or active duty for training over 30 days, but not annual training. For active duty service members, there are no fees or co-pays. Overall, there are 4,931,544 people enrolled and of that total, there are 1,562,658 enrolled who are retirees or family members under age 65. TRS is provided for Reservists not eligible for the Federal Employee Health Benefit Plan (FEHBP). There are 119,775 TRS plans covering 326,710 people which is 25.6 percent take rate.

TRICARE has been a very successful healthcare solution for military members, and would be a very viable addition to the FEHB program for Military Technicians.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation to include TRICARE in the FEHB as an option for military Technicians and provide access to FEHB to Reserve Component Military Members.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-09**

TITLE: EANGUS Executive Council authority to act on legislative and policy proposals not addressed by the resolutions process

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Provide the EANGUS Executive Council authority to act on congressional legislative and military policy proposals not addressed by the resolutions process during the interim between EANGUS Annual Conferences

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Montana

BUSINESS CASE: While our annual EANGUS Resolutions Committee effectively promulgates resolutions for the subsequent year, unanticipated issues of great importance to our EANGUS membership pop-up during the interim between annual conferences. It is impossible to anticipate future legislative efforts or DoD/NGB policies that will be proposed during the interim, therefore it is appropriate to authorize our Executive Council to act on issues that are not covered by current, active resolutions. This authority will allow EANGUS to be responsive to current events on a year-round basis.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States resolves to empower the EANGUS Executive Council to establish standard operating procedures (SOP) to act on congressional legislation/proposed legislation or policy proposals/changes of the DoD and NGB during the interim between annual national conferences.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR17-10

TITLE: Remove 10 US Code - 115 USC 1095 Rule - Personnel Strengths: Requirement for Annual Authorization

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Active Duty and Selected Reserve end strength to be authorized by law – Congress shall authorize personnel strength levels for each fiscal year. (Example): National Guard members performing funeral honors duty under Title 32 for more than 1095 days in four (4) years, that member would count against the AGR end strength for the Guard in the year they hit the 1095 threshold.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: California

BUSINESS CASE: Current law reads:

- (a) ACTIVE-DUTY AND SELECTED RESERVE END STRENGTHS TO BE AUTHORIZED BY LAW.-Congress shall authorize personnel strength levels for each fiscal year for each of the following:
 - (1) The end strength for the armed forces (other than the Coast Guard) for (A) active-duty personnel who are to be paid from funds appropriated for active-duty personnel unless on active duty pursuant to subsection (b), and (B) active duty personnel and full-time National Guard duty personnel who are to be paid from funds appropriated for reserve personnel unless on active duty or full-time National Guard duty pursuant to subsection (b).
 - (2) The end strength for the Selected Reserve of each reserve component of the armed forces
- (b) CERTAIN RESERVES ON ACTIVE DUTY TO BE AUTHORIZED BY LAW –
 - (1) Congress shall annually authorize the maximum number of members of a reserve component permitted to be on active duty or full-time National Guard duty at any given time who are called or ordered to –
 - (A) active duty under section 1230(d) of this title for the purpose of providing operational support as prescribed in regulation issued by the Secretary of Defense;
 - (B) full time National Guard duty under section 502(f)(1)(B) of title 32 for the purpose of providing operational support when authorized by the Secretary of Defense;
 - (C) active duty under section 12301(d) of this title for or full-time National Guard duty under section 502(f)(B) of title 32 for the purpose of preparing for and performing funeral honors functions for funerals of veterans under section 1491 of this title;
 - (D) active duty or retained on active duty under sections 12301(g) of this title while in a captive status; or
 - (E) active duty or retained on active duty under 12301(h) or 12322 of this title for the purpose of medical evaluation or treatment.
 - (2) A member of a reserve component who exceeds either of the following limits shall be included in the strength authorized under subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B), as appropriate

of subsection (a)(1):

(A) A call or order to active duty and full-time National Guard duty performed by the member exceed 1095 days in the previous 1460 days.

(B) The cumulative periods of active duty and full-time National Guard duty performed by the member exceed 1095 days in the previous 1460 days.

(3) In determining the period of active service under paragraph (2), the following periods of active service performed by a member shall not be included:

(A) All periods of active duty performed by a member who has not previously served in the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve.

(B) All periods of active duty or full-time National Guard duty for which the member is exempt from strength accounting under paragraphs (1) through (8) of subsection (i).

(4) As part of the budget justification materials submitted by the Secretary of Defense to Congress in support of the end strength authorizations required under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a) (1) for fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary shall provide the following:

(A) The number of members specified by reserve component, authorized under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) who were serving on active duty or full-time National Guard duty for operational support beyond each of the limits specified under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) at the end of the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the budget justification materials are submitted.

(B) The number of members, specified by reserve component, on active duty for operational support who, at the end of the fiscal year for which the budget justification materials are submitted, are projected to be serving on active duty or full-time National Guard duty for operational support beyond such limits.

(C) The number of members, specified by reserve component, on active duty or full-time National Guard duty for operational support who are included in, and counted against, the end strength authorizations requested under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (a)(1).

(D) A summary of the missions being performed by members identified under subparagraphs (A) and (b).

(c) **LIMITATION ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL** – No funds may be appropriated for any fiscal year to or for –

(1) The use of active-duty personnel or full-time National Guard duty personnel of any of the armed forces (other than Coast Guard) unless the end strength for such personnel for that armed force for that fiscal year has been authorized by law;

(2) The use of the Selected Reserve of any reserve component of the armed forces unless the end strength for the Selected Reserve of that component for that fiscal year has been authorized by law; or

(3) The use of reserve component personnel to perform active duty or full-time National Guard duty under subsection (b) unless the strength for such personnel for that reserve component for that fiscal year has been authorized by law.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the United States urge Congress to enact legislation to remove the 1095 rule as it pertains to the National Guard.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-11**

TITLE: Adjusting the Tax Burden for those Veterans using the Disability Discharge for Student Loans

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Those Veterans who use the Disability Discharge for Student Loans are taxed for doing so and leaving a debt with a different organization. Erasing the tax would ease the financial burden of the Disabled Veteran.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Ohio

BUSINESS CASE: Those Service Members who have student loans through the Department of Education and are rated 100% disabled through the Department of Veteran Affairs are eligible to have the student loans discharged. The disabled Veteran may want to apply for the disability discharge due to the disability causing a financial hardship in repaying the student loans. Yet, when these student loans are discharged due to disability it creates a new financial burden. When the student loans are discharged it creates a tax burden due to the student loans being reported as earned income. The tax burden can leave those disabled Veterans owing thousands in tax debts to the Internal Revenue Service. The disability discharge trades one debt of student loans for another debt of taxes. Adjusting the law to allow Disabled Veterans to not be taxed after being approved for a disability discharge of student debts would allow the Disabled Veterans to not be financially burdened with another financial hardship going forward.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to reduce the tax burden on all Disabled Military Veterans who have a student loan dismissed due to their disability.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-12**

TITLE: Technician Voluntary Leave Transfer (VLT) Program

SHORT DESCRIPTION: The Voluntary Leave Transfer Program currently allows only annual leave to be transferred to those in need. This resolution would allow sick leave to be authorized for transfer to those in need.

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

SUBMITTER: Ohio

BUSINESS CASE: Currently, per the TPR 630 regulation Chapter 10 Voluntary Leave Transfer, 10-2 Provisions: The VLT program permits Federal employees to donate annual leave for the use of other Federal employees in medical or family medical emergency situations. Annual leave may only be donated. This resolution is aimed at changing this regulation to allow federal military technicians to voluntarily transfer sick and compensatory leave to requesting employees just as they can transfer annual leave. This would greatly increase the response to those employees in need of the donated leave due to their extenuating circumstances.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to allow federal military technicians to voluntarily transfer sick and compensatory leave to requesting employees just as they can transfer annual leave.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-13**

TITLE: Boosting Military leave from 120 hours to 160 hours

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Due to additional training requirements Military leave needs to be adjusted from the current 120 hours a year to 160 hours a year.

PROPOSAL TYPE: Resubmission

SUBMITTER: Ohio

BUSINESS CASE: The Military Leave is currently set at 120 hours per year. With most Annual Trainings currently being set at three weeks in length due to training for, or in support of, deployments military technician leave is used up all for Annual Training. With Military leave being used up for Annual Training, those who have MUTA's on Friday's lose out on Technician Pay. Adjusting Military leave from 120 hours to 160 hours would assist the Military Technician in accomplishing Unit and individual missions without being forced to lose pay.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to support legislation that would adjust the annual Military leave authorization for military service from 120 hours to 160 hours per year.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR17-14

TITLE: Mission Support Resourcing for Reach back ISR Missions

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Provide proper resourcing for additional communications, finance, medical, force support, and civil engineering to DCGS units which are required to support a 24/7/365 intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance contingency operations at home station; "deployed in garrison."

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

COMMENTS / PLACEHOLDER NOTES / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: See Business Case

SUBMITTER: Indiana

BUSINESS CASE: Over the past 10 years, numerous Air National Guard units have been reassigned to home station "reach back" missions (i.e. Distributed Common Ground System-DCGS) due to Base Realignment and Closure actions and force realignment. The nature of these missions are "deployed in garrison." This is a new concept as opposed to all required support deploying to different locations overseas in support of combatant commander real-time Intelligence requirements. The DCGS Weapon System, in particular, is tasked by a combatant commander engaged in combat ops and requires 24/7/365 support due to the nature of the supported areas of responsibility. Through the last 10 years we have found many base support functions are necessary over and above the "standard" base support concept because of this 24/7/365 requirement. These areas are critical to the success of the DCGS mission to prevent mission failure. A DCGS unit requires Communication, Medical, Force Support, Mission Support, Logistic Support and environmental support around the clock in support of 24/7/365 operation requirements (i.e. Secure Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet), Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) services, medical readiness, force support and mission support requirements) to maintain Fully Mission Capable (FMC).

Loss of any of these readiness and operational requirements (i.e. SIPRNet, HVAC, medical, etc.) prevents a DCGS unit from conducting operations and perpetuates a domino effect throughout the enterprise negatively affecting the warfighter. While the DCGS sites are adequately manned with Title 10 operational resources to meet the 24/7/365 requirements, the necessary support groups (i.e. Medical Group, Mission Support Group, Force Support, Comptroller, etc.) are not adequately manned directly impacting mission due to this limitation.

RECOMMENDATION: Propose the following units be given the respective Title-10 assets in support of DCGS 24/7/365 operational support when the associated DCGS unit is activated for reach back operations: 2 x Communication Flight (CF) assets; 1 x Financial Management (FM) asset; 1 x Medical Group (MDG) asset; 1 x Force Support Flight (FSF) asset; and, 2 x Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) assets. Recommend the following Unit Type Code (UTC) taskings:

CF - 2 x 6K0NF; (1 x 3D052 and 1 x 3D052)

FM - 1 x XFFA1 (Mil Pay) or 1 x XFFA7 (Budget); (1 x 6F0X1)

MDG - 1 x UTC; (XXXXXX)

FSF - 1 x UTC; (XXXXXX)

CES - 2 x UTC; (1 x XXXXXX and 1 x XXXXXX)

By tasking these additional UTCs, the support functions at the 7 x ANG DCGS sites (AL, AR, IN, KS, MA, NV, UT) will be resourced closer to the 4.85 manning standard IAW AFI 38-201 for 24/7/365 operations. Current Air National Guard full-time manning standards for the above recommendations DO NOT take into account 24/7/365 "deployed in garrison" combat operations.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR17-15**

TITLE: Retiree Health Care

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Revise 10 USC 1074 (b) to authorize concurrent receipt of military retiree health care under TRICARE for the retiree and family for Soldiers who qualify for reduced age retirement based on performance of certain types of active service as prescribed in Title 10 USC 12731 (f).

PROPOSAL TYPE: New Submission

COMMENTS / PLACEHOLDER NOTES / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY: See Business Case

SUBMITTER: Indiana

BUSINESS CASE: Currently National Guard Soldiers who qualify for reduced age retirement under 10 USC SEC 12731 , (f)(2)(A) and IAW NGB implementation guidance are not authorized concurrent receipt of military retiree health care under TRICARE until the retiree reaches age 60 no matter how early they start receiving their retired pay for non-regular retired pay. They must wait until they reach age 60 to be eligible for their entitled military retiree health care under TRICARE.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend that the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation to create a proper call to duty authority 10 USC 1074 (b) to authorize concurrent receipt of military retiree health care under TRICARE for the retiree and family for Soldiers who qualify for reduced age retirement based on performance of certain types of active service as prescribed in Title 10 USC 12731 (f).

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR17-16

TITLE: Support of the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS).

SHORT DESCRIPTION: EANGUS will continue to support the structure and equipment issues that are endorsed by the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) that contribute to the accomplishment of the purposes and goals of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS).

PROPOSAL TYPE: Submission

SUBMITTER: EANGUS Resolutions Committee

BUSINESS CASE: Multiple force structure, mission and equipment issues are of interest to our membership. EANGUS is unable to address the multitude of these issues and must focus on “people” issues in support of our enlisted force. A single resolution provides the EANGUS leadership the flexibility to address the non-personnel issues as the opportunity arises and resources permit.

EANGUS is dedicated to promoting the status, welfare, and professionalism of the men and women of the Army and Air National Guard. Our goal is to provide quality, motivated, professional soldiers, airmen, noncommissioned officers to the National Guard. Our primary focus is to accomplish our purpose and goals in the best interest of the National Guard Enlisted Force. Issues of force structure, missions, and effective equipment to accomplish those missions are more appropriately addressed by NGAUS and AGAUS.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States continues to pledge support to those NGAUS and AGAUS initiatives that contribute to the accomplishment of the EANGUS purpose and goals.

2016 EANGUS Resolutions set to Expire Unless Reaffirmed for 1 year

- NR16-01 Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer Eligibility Benefit (TEB)
- NR16-02 Free Annual Pass to Fish and Wildlife Services and National Park Services to excluded previous military members and their dependents
- NR16-03 Protect Reserve Component health care benefits eligibility for Reserve Component members (EANGUS Staff DOD Meetings)
- NR16-04 Air National Guard Athletics and Youth Act of 2016
- NR16-05 Reserve Component Service Member Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Improvement Act (Reintroduced as HR 1317/ S 492)
- NR16-06 Tricare Reserve Select direct pay option for businesses
- NR16-07 Support for the addition and alignment of EOD elements with each state Civil Support Team
- NR16-08 Retirement Age for the Guard and Reserve
- NR16-09 Toxic Exposure/Toxic Wounds (Reintroduced as S 726)
- NR16-10 FY 17 Proposed TRICARE enrollment fees (Accomplished- Congress DID NOT Adopt)
- NR16-11 Automatic reenrollment in Tricare Reserve Select (TRS) and MetLife Dental
- NR16-12 Reenlistment incentives for Soldiers re-enlisting to meet mandatory service obligations (MSO)
- NR16-13 Recoupment or Termination of incentives for changing career management fields
- NR16-14 TRICARE Retired Reserve rate for grey area retiree's
- NR16-15 Technician compatibility
- NR16-16 TRICARE Reserve Select Extension for surviving families of Guardsmen
- NR16-17 In Vitro Fertilization for Veterans with Service Connected Injuries (Accomplished through VA Rule Change in 2017)
- NR16-18 Deployment Veteran Status
- NR16-19 Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) status while eligible for TRICARE due to mobilization orders
- NR16-20 Traditional National Guard Retiree's Medical Insurance for those Rated 100% through the VA
- NR16-21 CV-22 Osprey ANG total Force Package

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-01

TITLE: Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer Eligibility Benefit (TEB)

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Allowing for the transfer of Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefits for service members who are ineligible to complete his/her Military Service Obligation (MSO) of four years due to non-retention/force management.

BUSINESS CASE: Public Law 110-252 (Title 38, U.S.C. § 3319) established the ability for Service Members to transfer their Post 9/11 GI Bill educational benefits to eligible dependents. According to the law, the purpose of this authority is "to promote recruitment and retention in the uniformed services." To transfer education benefits, a Service Member must be on active duty or a member of the Selected Reserves in order to transfer benefits, have completed at least six years of qualifying service with at least 90 days of a qualifying period of service, have no negative action flag, and agree to serve at least four more years as a member of the Armed Forces, or the years of service as determined by the Secretary.

The Office of the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness does not consider the ARNG Qualitative Retention Board (QRB) and the ANG Selective Retention Review Board as force shaping and there is no exception to the requirement that a Service Member must complete his/her Military Service Obligation (MSO) of four years due to non-retention/force management. The service member and their dependents are then left having to repay all previous benefits received to the VA. Active Component members and their dependents are able to retain their benefits due to "reduction in force or force shaping".

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Office of the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness changes DODI 1341.13 to allow Service Members of the National Guard that have served honorably over 20 years and who are selectively non-retained or forced to retire without completion of their MSO be allowed to keep their Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Benefit (TEB) without recoupment.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-02

TITLE: Free Annual Pass to Fish and Wildlife Services and National Park Services to excluded previous military members and their dependents

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Allowing for a free annual pass for all Military Retirees, Medal of Honor recipients, and their dependents.

BUSINESS CASE: The current free annual pass provided to Current US military members and the dependents of deployed military in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, as well as most members of the Current US Reserves and National Guard covers entrance to Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service sites that charge Entrance Fees, and Standard Amenity Fees at Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation sites. Proper military ID is required (CAC Card or DoD Form 1173). Former military members who carry a blue DoD Form 2, pink DoD Form 2, DoD Form 1173-1, or DoD Form 2765 are not included in the free annual pass policy and are not eligible for the benefit. This policy excludes Medal of Honor recipients, Retired Members of the U.S. Active Duty, Reserves and National Guard, and their dependents who carry a military ID.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation to change the current eligibility for a free annual pass in to Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service sites for all U.S. Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard personnel, Military Retirees, Medal of Honor recipients, and their dependents with proper military ID (CAC Card or DoD Form 1173, blue DoD Form 2, pink DoD Form 2, DoD Form 1173-1, & DoD Form 2765) .

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-03

TITLE: Protect Reserve Component health care benefits eligibility for Reserve Component members

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Ensure Reserve Component (RC) health care benefits eligibility for all RC personnel regardless of employment or employer.

BUSINESS CASE: Section 706 of the FY07 NDAA authorized TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) for all National Guard Members and their families, however, the language was inserted into the statute which prohibits eligibility to enroll in TRS if the member is enrolled or eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 89 of Title 5, or better known as “Federal Employee Health Benefits” (FEHB) program. This exclusion is codified in Title 10 U.S.C. Section 1076d, (a)(2). This exclusion affects all National Guard Technicians as well as all members working for other government agencies who participate in the FEHB Program. As many as 50,000 Guard members are prohibited from choosing TRS as a family coverage option due to this restriction. In some cases, currently, the rates for TRS can be nearly half the cost of the least expensive coverage option under the FEHB, making TRS the better option for many Guard Members who are currently not eligible. Eliminating this restriction will allow Guard Technicians greater choice in selecting the health care plan which best meets their family’s needs.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to amend Title 10 U.S.C. Section 1067d (a) by deleting paragraph two which creates an exclusion in TRICARE eligibility for anyone eligible for health benefits under Chapter 89 of Title 5 (Federal Employee Health Benefit Program).

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-04**

TITLE: Air National Guard Athletics and Youth Act of 2016

SHORT DESCRIPTION: CNGB Program that supports recruiting, retention and training within the National Guard requires a dedicated ANG Program Objective Memorandum (POM)

BUSINESS CASE: Members of the Air National Guard (ANG) are eligible per Title 32 - National Guard, Chapter 5 - Training, Section 504 to attend National Guard schools and small arms competitions. Chief, National Guard Bureau, (CNGB) Competitive Events Program is currently funded with ANG discretionary funding that provides inconsistent support for the program which has led to a three year decline in participation reducing overall effectiveness. The Army National Guard (ARNG) support for the program is already included in the ARNG POM process but not within the ANG.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges CNGB to add NGB-AY, Athletics and Youth Program into the ANG POM process aligning it with the ARNG in support of this important CNGB recruiting, retention and training program within the Army and Air National Guard.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-05

TITLE: Reserve Component Service Member Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Improvement Act

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Current tax law limits annual contributions to TSP accounts to a dollar amount which might penalize future reserve component service members who also contribute to a civilian employer provided 401k style retirement plan.

BUSINESS CASE: Beginning in 2018, individuals entering the National Guard will receive government-matched retirement contributions in their Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) accounts. Current tax code limits all individuals under the age of 55 to contributing \$18,000 toward their retirement each year. Future members of the National Guard, who max out their employer-contributed retirement account, could lose out on their government-matched TSP accounts. EAANG strongly supports HR 4381- Service member Retirement Improvement Act, introduced by Representative Sam Johnson (R-TX). This bill would stop the IRS from stifling Guard or Reserve service members' ability to save for their retirement. This bill would give Reserve Component service members the opportunity to fully participate in the military TSP part of the new blended retirement without compromising both their civilian and military retirement plans. HR 4381 would allow members of the National Guard to max out their employer-contributed retirement account and their government-matched TSP account. It is important to remember the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, which proposed a blended retirement entitlement, did not intend for Guard and Reserve members to lose benefits. We believe the bill will encourage Guard, and Reserve members to contribute to their military TSP plan and prevent a negative impact to recruiting and retention.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to support legislation similar to HR 4381 that would increase the limitations on TSP/401K type contributions for Guardsmen, thus allowing them to utilize their full civilian sponsored retirement plan as well as their military retirement benefit.

(Reintroduced for the 2017 Congress as HR 1317 and S 492)

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-06**

TITLE: Tricare Reserve Select direct pay option for businesses

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Providing an incentive to hire Reserve Component (RC) members by allowing businesses to purchase Tricare Reserve Select for their RC employees, as part of the employer mandated health insurance initiated under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

BUSINESS CASE: Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), businesses are required to provide affordable health care to Americans. If a business does not provide care, they risk incurring monetary penalties. During a testimony before the House Veterans Affairs Committee, EANGUS offered up an entirely new idea that the subcommittee found to be intriguing, allowing business's to somehow be enabled to directly pay for the Tricare Reserve Select policy premiums of an employee who is a Guardsman or Reservist. By paying the single rate of \$51.62 or the family rate of \$195.81 per month, a small business owner could save from \$3,000 to \$10,000 or more per year, per individual. This number would be an immediate and significant incentive to hire Guardsmen and Reservists. Best of all, Guard members are already entitled to purchase these policies, so no new program needs to be developed.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation enabling businesses to direct pay the Tricare Reserve Select premium for Reserve Component (RC) members who desire to have Tricare Reserve Select.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-07

TITLE: Support for the addition and alignment of EOD elements with each state Civil Support Team

SHORT DESCRIPTION: There are 57 Civil Support Teams (CST) across the Nation. Incorporating an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) element into these CST's will enhance partnerships and capabilities for the unique mission and support that they provide to local authorities.

BUSINESS CASE: The National Guard is the first line of defense for individual states and the first responder for disasters and emergencies. The Civil Support Teams (CST) provide a state's first line of defense for a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, or Nuclear (CBRN) threats. CSTs can identify hazards, assess consequences, advise on response measures, position themselves as a preventive measure, and assist with appropriate requests for additional support. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technicians are a missing and needed element to accompany the skills sets and services that the CST's already provide. Civilian Bomb Disposal assets are often limited on response capability based on jurisdictional lines and or fiscal constraints. Further, even with these assets there are many areas either left uncovered or lacking explosive expertise regarding military munitions and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) which may be encountered. Adding an EOD team to each state's National Guard will give states an asset to cover military unexploded ordnances (UXO) as well as IEDs. EOD Technicians transitioning out of the Active Component have limited options to transition into the National Guard. An element of EOD in the National Guard not only provides a reserve component service for the Technicians to transition to, it also provides an opportunity for them to continue to provide their skill sets with a real world application of skills that benefits their State and Nation.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the National Guard Bureau, the Department of Defense and Congress to evaluate the feasibility and force structure requirements needed to add Explosive Ordnance Disposal elements to the existing Civil Support Teams across the Nation and revise the CST mission statement to include the mitigation of situations needing EOD services. AGR resources located within the current force structure and manning should NOT be reallocated for EOD manning. Additional AGR resources would be required IOT meet these new mission requirements.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-08

TITLE: Retirement Age for the Guard and Reserve

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Establish Reserve Component retirement age parity with Active Component and meet the original intent of retirement program changes adopted in NDAA 2015.

BUSINESS CASE: Reserve Component (RC) members of the Department of Defense who serve 20 years or more earn a retirement benefit proportional to their time in uniform, however, they are not able to receive payment from the benefit until they reach the age of 60. Active Component retirees are able to receive their retirement benefit immediately upon retirement. RC members take the same oath to serve and protect our country as the active component, making the same sacrifices to time, community, nation and family. They have proven themselves to be a required part of this Nations call to defense, both at home and abroad. They are a true operational reserve to the Total Force. RC members deserve parity of the retirement age with the active component. Removing the age restriction and making it equal to the active components rule of eligibility immediately upon separation of service after 20 years helps to secure the future of our all-volunteer force, particularly the Citizen-Soldier. Changes in the Department of Defense Retirement Program that were adopted in the NDAA 2015 were originally aimed at lowering the retirement age for the RC. The language of the bill said that service members would be eligible to draw their new retirement immediately upon retirement age. For the Active Component, that retirement age stayed the same, immediately upon separation from the service after 20 years. For RC service members, however, retirement age is still defined as the age of 60, despite the original intent from Congress.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to support legislation that would change 10 U.S.C. Chapter 1223 by removing the “60 years of age” restriction on Reserve Component Members who have served 20 years and earned a retirement benefit from the Department of Defense before they can receive retirement compensation.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-09**

TITLE: Toxic Exposure/Toxic Wounds

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Burn pit exposure and various other toxic exposures are cause of illnesses among veterans of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

BUSINESS CASE: Burn pit exposure and various other toxic exposures are cause of illnesses among veterans of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan failed to make the 2016 list of peer-reviewed medical research programs that Congress requires the Defense Department to conduct. The absence of burn pit exposure on the list was confirmed by a spokeswoman for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs at Fort Detrick, Maryland

Exposure to various toxic chemicals is causing grave illness and even death to service members. The situation is tantamount Agent Orange and should be treated as such. Long term medical care must be made available for service members.

Sen Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) introduced S. 2679 a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs a center of excellence in the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of health conditions relating to exposure to burn pits. A companion bill, H.R. 2237 was introduced in the House. Both have been forwarded to their Veterans and/or military affairs committees

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation supporting medical care for service members who have become ill due to effects of toxic exposure from burn pits and other chemical agents used in combat area.

(VA closed the VA burn pit database and determined that the information collected was inconclusive. Efforts to investigate were reintroduced to the 2017 Congress as S 726)

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-10**

ACCOMPLISHED

TITLE: FY 17 Proposed TRICARE enrollment fees

SHORT DESCRIPTION: The Pentagon has proposed a series of TRICARE fee increases, outlined in the President's fiscal year 2017 budget.

BUSINESS CASE: The Pentagon has proposed a series of TRICARE fee increases, outlined in the President's fiscal year 2017 budget. Congress has these measures under review.

The DoD proposal would require all retired service members, except those currently in TRICARE for Life, to pay an annual enrollment fee to participate in TRICARE. Without payment of the "participation" fee, access to TRICARE would be forfeit until the next open season. DoD proposed a one-time fee to access TRICARE for Life.

Service members' access to Tricare is already earned by being an active member of the United States Armed Services, either in AC or RC component status. TRICARE for life is earned by 20 or more year membership in the US Armed Services.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to reject the DoD proposals to start charging enrollment fees for TRICARE.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-11

TITLE: Automatic reenrollment in TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) and MetLife Dental

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Automatic reenrollment in TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) and MetLife Dental after Active Duty (AD) time in which TRICARE Prime and Active Duty Dental automatically kicked in.

BUSINESS CASE: Service Members who are enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select then go on an Active Duty order for over 30 days are automatically enrolled into TRICARE Prime and Active Duty Dental. When the Service Members orders end, the health and dental insurance terminates. Providers do not remind Service Members that they have to re-apply for TRICARE Reserve Select and/or MetLife Dental. It is allowed to re-apply before the active duty time ends but numerous Soldiers and Airmen have re-applied and had their applications not accepted due to their Status at the time of application. There is a disconnect between DEERS and TRICARE that has left many Soldiers, Airmen, and their families without coverage. Allowing a suspension of TRS during any period of Active Duty where Tricare status changes, rather than disenrollment and re-enrollment could be a more feasible option for RC members.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Department of Defense to review policies and procedures to allow previous TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS) and MetLife Dental participants to be automatically reenrolled into the benefit anytime they have had a change in duty status that caused another form of TRICARE or dental insurance to be enacted on their behalf.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-12**

TITLE: Reenlistment incentives for Soldiers reenlisting to meet mandatory service obligations (MSO).

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Currently you are only eligible for an incentive (bonus, Montgomery GI Bill Kicker, or Student Loan Repayment) if you are 365 days or closer to your ETS.

BUSINESS CASE: Some Soldiers and Airmen have to reenlist before their 1 year window to meet an MSO for their career progression. For example, Flight Medics have to become Nationally Registered Paramedic (NR-P). Upon completion of Nationally Registered Paramedic (NR-P) training requirements they incur a 48 month Service Remaining Requirement (ALARACT 061/2012 – NBG-ARH Policy Memorandum 06-081). Other positions have a similar MSO as well. If the Soldier is outside of their incentive window, they will still have to reenlist without incentives to satisfy their MSO.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the National Guard Bureau to update the Selected Reserve Incentive Programs (SRIP) Policy so that Soldiers and Airmen are eligible for the same incentives that they would be eligible for if they were in the 1 year window when reenlisting to satisfy a mandatory service obligation.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-13**

TITLE: Recoupment or Termination of incentives for changing career management fields

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Soldiers and Airmen who currently have enlistment incentives risk losing their incentives if they change their career management field (MOS or AFSC).

BUSINESS CASE: Service members who currently have enlistment incentives risk losing their incentives if they change their career management field. Only some career management fields are eligible for incentives but moving from one field to another, even when both fields have incentive eligibility, service members face recoupment of previously paid incentives for voluntarily changing fields. Some positions are extremely hard to fill via lateral moves because the applicants would lose their incentives, causing financial hardship and stalling their progression in the military.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges the Department of Defense to allow National Guard Service Members to keep their incentives when changing career fields or for career progression so long as the new field is also eligible for incentives.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-14**

TITLE: TRICARE Retired Reserve rate for grey area retiree's

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Service Members who retire with 20 good years of service in the National Guard are eligible for TRICARE Retired Reserve health insurance but the rates are too high to allow some to participate in the program.

BUSINESS CASE: Service Members who retire with 20 good years of service in the National Guard are eligible for TRICARE Retired Reserve health insurance but the rates are too high to allow some to participate in the program.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to conduct a re-evaluation of the rates for TRICARE Retired Reserve in order to ensure that Reserve Component Grey Area Retirees are offered the best rate on their earned health care benefit.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-15**

TITLE: Technician compatibility

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Some Technicians are limited on the positions that they can hold in a TDA/MTOE/UMDA unit due to the Technician Personnel Regulation 303.

BUSINESS CASE: Some Technicians are limited on the positions that they can hold in a TDA/MTOE/UMDA unit due to the Technician Personnel Regulation 303.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges a reevaluation of the Technician Personnel Regulation 303 to specifically look at the Technician Compatibility hindrances.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-16**

TITLE: TRICARE Reserve Select Extension for surviving families of Guardsmen

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Families members of Reserve Component Service Members enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select lose the benefit if their sponsor has an unexpected death. The benefit eligibility should be extended for that family to continue to provide health care for the family.

BUSINESS CASE: Service Members and their families who are enrolled in TRICARE Reserve select will lose that benefit after 6 months if the service member suffers an untimely death. This leaves the family with a very short window to find a new health care program before being penalized for not having a health care provider while also trying to manage all of the other details of such a sudden impact to life.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to enact legislation that would extend the eligibility period for surviving families of deceased TRICARE Reserve Select Sponsors.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-17**

ACCOMPLISHED

TITLE: In Vitro Fertilization for Veterans with Service Connected Injuries

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Veterans who become injured while on Active Duty to be allowed to use in vitro fertilization after they leave Active Duty

BUSINESS CASE: Those in all Branches of the Military, including those in the Army and Air National Guard, who become injured while serving on Active Duty may become impaired to having children on their own. A 1992 Federal Law does not authorize the Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide the service of in vitro fertilization to those in need. Currently, there are a few thousand Veterans, both male and female, are infertile due to injuries that were received during Combat or training. These injuries include some being paralyzed, some having damage to reproductive organs and others having brain injuries that affect the hormones that are needed to produce both eggs and sperm. Currently the Department of Defense does allow those still on an Active Status to use in vitro fertilization for those in need of the service due to service related injuries. While the Service Member is not charged for this service it is currently only being offered at seven hospitals, only around twenty percent of those eligible have taken advantage of this service. Those who do not take advantage of this service are generally in rehabilitation centers struggling to recover and not thinking about having children until after they are medically retired or discharged from the Military. While legislation has been brought before Congress in the past several years it has failed in every attempt. Repealing the 1992 law would allow those Service Connected Veterans to be able to start a family.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to repeal the 1992 law and authorize the Veterans Affairs (VA) to start allowing in vitro fertilization to those Veterans in need.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-18**

TITLE: Deployment Veteran Status

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Those who are Deployed to a Combat Zone for a 179 Consecutive Days and under would qualify for Veteran Status.

BUSINESS CASE: Those in the Army and Air National Guard have been constantly deployed to Combat Zones since 9/11 and are subject to be put in harms way. This could result in injury and/or death. Most of these deployments are 179 days and under due to no fault of those deployed. While those do perform each deployment honorably they do not qualify for Veteran Status. Under the current Federal Laws, those in the Military only gain Veteran Status if on Active Duty Status for 180 days or longer. By adopting this resolution, it would allow for those who are deployed to a Combat Zone to obtain Veteran Status for serving 179 Days or less.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to to authorize the Veteran Status to those serve honorably while deployed 179 or less days to a Combat Zone either through completion of the deployment with the Unit, being Wounded, or Killed In Action.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-19

TITLE: Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) status while eligible for TRICARE due to mobilization orders

SHORT DESCRIPTION: To adjust the options available for Technician Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) options.

BUSINESS CASE: Currently, technicians can only use TRICARE as a secondary insurance to FEHB until they enter into an Absent Uniformed Service (AUS) non-pay status during pre-mobilization TRICARE eligibility. The only option technicians have to utilize their full pre-mobilization TRICARE coverage is to CANCEL their FEHB plan which stops accrual of time toward retirement FEHB coverage eligibility and also results in loss of family FEHB coverage if death of the sponsor occurs while in a CANCEL status. Once in an AUS status, the technician has the option to TERMINATE their FEHB coverage, which suspends their FEHB coverage and payments, but entitles them and their dependents to all the eligibility and coverage if death of the sponsor occurs in a TERMINATE status, and also counts, while on orders and during the TRICARE TAMP period, as accrual of time toward retirement FEHB eligibility.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to allow the Military Technician to have the same FEHB options, rights, and coverage during pre-mobilization, mobilization, and post mobilization TRICARE eligibility periods.

**Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution
NR16-20**

TITLE: Traditional National Guard Retiree's Medical Insurance for those Rated 100% through the VA

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Those who retire out of the National Guard traditionally, not medical, would also be eligible for CHAMPVA if rated 100% disabled through the Veterans Affairs (VA).

BUSINESS CASE: Those who retire out of the National Guard traditionally, not medically, are eligible for Tricare Reserve Retired(TRR), but those retirees who are also 100% disabled through the VA are not eligible for CHAMPVA due to being eligible for TRR. With the rates for TRR being high and the costs of finding insurance on the civilian side being high some families would struggle to afford medical insurance costs. Being eligible for CHAMPVA would have the Veteran go to the VA Clinic/hospitals and have the family members being able to see Civilian Doctors at a more affordable cost. Those 100% Retirees who would use CHAMPVA would be able to use it until they become 60 years of age and eligible for Tricare for Life when the individual starts collecting the military retirements.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to authorize those traditional National Guard Retirees who are 100% disabled through the VA to use CHAMPVA until the retiree reaches the age of 60 and becomes eligible for Tricare for life.

Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) Resolution NR16-21

TITLE: CV-22 Osprey ANG total Force Package

SHORT DESCRIPTION: Developing a long-term mission requirement for the CV-22 Osprey for the ANG as part of the total Force Package.

BUSINESS CASE: The CV-22 Osprey represents a major proven capability to be used by the Air National Guard (ANG). Its ability for vertical take-off and landing, combined with fixed-wing speed and range has proven this to be a versatile multi-mission aircraft. The attributes of the CV-22 have enabled military planners to transcend traditionally defined roles and missions as currently dictated by legacy capabilities and resolve distance and time shortfalls for Combat Rescue capability as noted by Commander Air Combat Command regarding a Combat Rescue Helicopter (CRH) Mixed Fleet: "He had discussed this with Chief of Staff of the Air Force as a very attractive possibility to mitigate current risk in the Combat Rescue mission area, particularly the CRH (HH-60) capability gap for expeditious long range extractions."

The strategic shift to Africa and the Pacific reflects a shortcoming in Air Force Personnel Recovery (PR) that a traditional helicopter or C-130 force cannot meet regarding tyrannies of distance and response timing. The CV-22 provides a wide ranging capability to combat these tyrannies in a High End PR Title 10 role and provides a vastly improved mixed fleet to meet theater and Homeland Security/National Defense, Title 10, capability needs. CV-22 provides a rapid multi-mission state response capability in a single platform for Civil Support and Relief operations. Title 32 long range rescue, border security, and counter drug operations are more rapid, efficient, and economically done. The CV-22 will provide concurrent and proportional modernization, long-term recruiting, retention, and vast multi-mission capability. Counter Drug operations, rapid Civil Support point to point response, Border Patrol, Global Deep Strike anti-access PR Response and Homeland Security National Response capability performed by the CV-22 in the ANG is essential for long-term stability, dependability, growth and support to the Nation.

RECOMMENDATION: The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States urges Congress to direct the Department of Defense and National Guard Bureau to develop Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) formal requirement input to HQ AF for long lead and procurement input into the Program Objective Memorandum 2019, develop accession strategy for the ANG to attain and operate the CV-22 as part of the total force package and to capture force structure savings from Mixed Fleet as part of V-22 Multi-year III buy profile.