



NGAUS

Legislative Update

NGAUS Legislative Workshop

February 12, 2019



Agenda

- NGAUS Legislative Team
- NGAUS Strategic Overview
- Notable FY19 Accomplishments
- Congressional Cycle Update
- 116th Congress Overview
- 2018 State Election Results
- Top FY20 NGAUS Priorities
- Advocacy Tips



NGAUS Legislative Team



BG (Ret) Roy Robinson
NGAUS President
president@ngaus.org



COL (Ret) Mike Hadley
Legislative Director
mike.hadley@ngaus.org



Priya Ghosh Ahola
Deputy Legislative Director
priya.ghosh@ngaus.org



Elle Ross, Esq.
Counsel, Legislative Programs Manager
elle.ross@ngaus.org



J.C. Cardinale
Legislative Programs Manager
jc.cardinale@ngaus.org



Mark Malizia
Legislative Analyst
mark.malizia@ngaus.org



Helen Merino
Legislative Assistant
helen.merino@ngaus.org



NGAUS Strategic Overview

- **Advocacy**
- **Apolitical & Non-Partisan**
- **Goals & Best Practices**
 - Lobby for National Guard equipment parity and benefits equity
 - Develop strong relationships with Congress and staff, especially local staff
 - Collaboration with Department of Defense (DoD), Services, National Guard Bureau (NGB), Veterans Affairs (VA), and Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
 - Grassroots engagement



Notable FY19 Accomplishments

- \$421.0 million for the ARNG and \$421.0 million for the ANG in NGREA funding
- New UH-60 Black Hawk M-Model helicopters designated to ARNG
- Continued funding for HMMWV ambulance procurement and ARNG HMMWV modernization
- 6 AH-64 Apache Block IIIB new-build helicopters designated to ARNG
- 8 C-130J aircraft for ANG and increased C-130H modernization funding
- Increased funding for A-10 Warthawg modernization
- Funding for F-15C Eagle Active Warning and Survivability Systems (EPAWSS) and ALQ-128 Electronic Warfare Warning Sets (EWWS)
- Authorization for the secretaries of the Army and Air Force to adjust effective dates of promotion of Guard officers who experience delays in federal recognition of their promotion
- Under 12304b orders, high deployment allowance accrual for all Reserve Component servicemembers and non-reduction in pay protections for Reserve Component servicemembers who are also federal employees in their civilian capacity
- Increased funding for ARNG Cyber Protection Teams and cyber scholarships
- Increased funding for ARNG and ANG mental health pilot programs



Congressional Cycle Update

- President Trump signed Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Department of Defense (DoD) appropriations legislation into law in September
 - First time since 2008 DoD received appropriations before start of the FY
 - Other departments that received funding include Education, Energy, Health and Human Services (HHS), Labor, and Veterans Affairs (VA)
- 3 Week Continuing Resolution (CR)
 - Expires on February 15
 - Departments affected include Agriculture, Commerce, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Interior, Justice, State, Transportation, and Treasury



116th Congress Overview

U.S. House of Representatives

- Democrats hold 235-seat majority (89 new Members of Congress)
 - House Armed Services Committee (HASC) Chair: Rep. Adam Smith (D), WA-09
 - House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee (HAC-D) Chair: Rep. Pete Visclosky (D), IN-01
 - House Veterans Affairs Committee (HVAC) Chair: Rep. Mark Takano (D), CA-41
- 3 new active ARNG officers elected (LTC Michael Waltz (R) represents FL-06, CPT Max Rose (D) represents NY-11, 1LT William Timmons (R) represents SC-04)

U.S. Senate

- Republicans hold 53-seat majority (9 new Senators)
 - Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) Chair: Sen. James Inhofe (R), OK
 - Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee (SAC-D) Chair: Sen. Richard Shelby (R), AL
 - Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (SVAC) Chair: Sen. Johnny Isakson (R), GA



2018 State Election Results

Governors Overview

- 22 new governors elected
 - Republicans won governorships in 20 states
 - Democrats won governorships in 16 states, Guam, and the Virgin Islands
- 14 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico did not hold an election in 2018



Top FY20 NGAUS Priorities

Army National Guard

- Concurrent & Proportional Fielding of Equipment
- UH-60 Black Hawk Modernization, Recapitalization
- HMMWV Modernization
- AH-64 Battalions Equipped at 24 Aircraft

Air National Guard

- Concurrent & Proportional Fielding of Equipment
- Concurrent Fielding of F-35, KC-46 Aircraft
- C-130H Modernization, C-130J Recapitalization
- A-10, F-15C/D, F-16 Modernization

Joint-Personnel

- Reserve Component Medical Readiness/ TRICARE reform
- Tax Incentives for Employers to Hire Guardsmen, Tax Deductions for Drill Travel
- Consistent NGREA Funding
- Improved Mental Health Care Access & Treatment for Guardsmen
- Early Retirement Credit under 12304b Orders
- Increase Full Time Support/Manning
- Enhance Guard Cyber & Space Missions
- Increase Annual Federal Employee Military Leave from 15 to 30 Days
- Allow TSP Contributions Outside 401(k) Threshold



Advocacy Tips

Before Meeting

- Senator/Representative/staffer military background?
- Issue impact to district or state?
- Would not supporting issue adversely effect constituents and/or servicemembers?
- Authorization or appropriation/funding issue?

During Meeting

- Be professional and forthright
- Straightforward conversation, with a clear “ask”
- Always ask how you can help the Senator/Representative/staffer
- If providing handout, ensure it:
 - Is no longer than 1 page (front and back)
 - Is easy to read
 - Lists request(s) clearly
 - Has relevant images
 - Spell out acronyms