



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES, INC.

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July 25, 2019

The Honorable Mike Enzi
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Yarmuth
Chairman
U.S. House Committee on the Budget
204-E Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Womack
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on the Budget
507 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Enzi, Chairman Yarmuth, Ranking Member Sanders, and Ranking Member Womack,

On behalf of the 45,000 members of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) and the 450,000 soldiers and airmen of the National Guard, we respectfully urge Congress to pass legislation codifying the agreement, reached by the Trump Administration and Congressional leaders, to set overall national defense spending topline for Fiscal Years (FY) 2020 and 2021.

The agreement would set overall national defense spending at \$738.0 billion in FY20 and \$740.5 billion in FY21, which are funding levels significantly above the Budget Control Act (BCA) caps mandated for each of those years. NGAUS believes the agreement will greatly benefit the readiness of our soldiers and airmen, while providing them certainty that federal defense funds will be provided for the next two years.

In a letter earlier this year addressed to Majority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Senator Schumer, and Leader McCarthy, we urged Congress to raise the BCA budget caps for FY20 and FY21. Given the tremendous strides Congress and the Department of Defense have made in increasing the lethality and readiness of our military these past few years, agreeing to these new overall national defense spending topline for FY20 and FY21 will ensure those efforts continue.

We appreciate your consideration of our views as we continue our work to benefit the men and women of our National Guard while enhancing their lethality, readiness, and role in the Total Force mission. Thank you for your continued support of the National Guard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Roy Robinson", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

J. Roy Robinson
Brigadier General (Ret.), U.S. Army
President, NGAUS

cc: The Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations
The Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Senate and House Committees on Armed Services