



ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

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General Gordon R. Sullivan
United States Army (Ret.)
President

July 16, 2009

On behalf of the more than 100,000 members of the Association of the United States Army, I write to urge you to amend on the floor, Section 414 of the FY 2010 Defense Authorization Act to increase the number of authorized Non-Dual Status Technicians in the Army National Guard from 1600 to 2191.

Because the Army National Guard has shifted from a strategic reserve to a frequently mobilized operational force, certain duties must be performed at home station on an ongoing basis while units are being prepared for mobilization, returning from deployment and then training for the next phase. Having these duties performed by uniformed dual-status technicians has resulted in disruption when they must depart for mobilization. Consequently, the Army needs a significant increase in civilian, non-dual status technicians at home station who do not deploy.

The administration's budget request supports such an increase for the Army National Guard which would bolster its capability to continuously support future Reserve Component mobilizations with decreased disruptions. While the House version of the FY 10 Defense Authorization bill supports the increase, the Senate version does not. AUSA urges you to amend the Senate version to increase the number of non-dual status technicians in the Army National Guard to 2191.

Sincerely,

GORDON R. SULLIVAN
General, USA Retired