



October 9, 2025

The Honorable John Thune  
Senate Majority Leader  
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
521 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
House Minority Leader  
2267 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries,

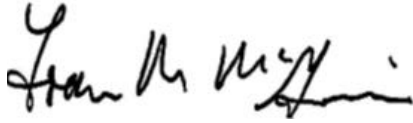
On behalf of the members represented by our respective organizations, and the more than one million members of the Reserve Component, we respectfully urge you to swiftly ensure military pay and readiness by ending the current government shutdown.

Immediate action is required to ensure our servicemembers can continue to fulfil their roles and protect the homeland. On September 29th, our respective organizations submitted a joint letter which outlined the detrimental effects of a Continuing Resolution (CR) and the severe consequences of a government shutdown on the total force. Since then, drills have been canceled, and training schedules have been adversely impacted for the year.

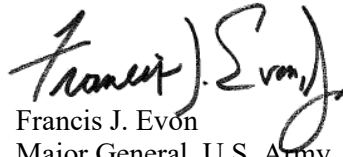
While negotiations continue for the CR, servicemembers are projected to miss their initial paychecks on October 15th. This will impose undue hardship on both servicemembers and their families. If a successful conclusion to the current shutdown cannot be reached, we respectfully request prompt consideration and passage of H.R.5401 – Pay Our Troops Act of 2026, to provide the necessary funding to support our nation's Armed Forces.

We appreciate your consideration of this critical issue for our Soldiers and Airmen as they fulfill their role as the nation's primary combat reserve. Thank you for your continued support of the National Guard and Reserve.

Sincerely,



Francis M. McGinn  
Major General (Ret.), U.S. Army  
President  
National Guard Association of the United States



Francis J. Evon  
Major General, U.S. Army  
President  
Adjutant General Association of the United States



John B. Hashem  
Major General (Ret.), U.S. Army  
Executive Director  
Reserve Organization of America



John Gipe  
Command Sergeant Major (Ret.), U.S. Army  
Executive Director  
Enlisted Association of the National Guard