



## National Guard Association of the United States

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One Massachusetts Avenue Northwest, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20001 | (202) 789-0031 | [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org)

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the nearly 500,000 soldiers and airmen of the National Guard, we are extremely concerned that the Department of Defense's reprogramming of Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations will result in severe and long-term damage to the National Guard. We respectfully request you take swift action to restore \$1.3 billion for National Guard and Reserve Equipment, \$100 million for Army National Guard HMMWV Modernization, \$196 million for Air National Guard C-130J aircraft, and all funds appropriated to support National Guard counter-narcotics operations. All of these funds are essential to maintain National Guard interoperability, lethality, and readiness in support of the National Defense Strategy. We have concerns regarding the targeting of these specific accounts, making the National Guard disproportionately shoulder the burden as bill payer.

We greatly appreciate your commitment to invest in the National Guard even before you took office. At the 138<sup>th</sup> National Guard Association of the U.S. (NGAUS) General Conference in 2016, you pledged "to give [the National Guard] the resources, the equipment and the support you need and deserve." You also assured, "The National Guard will always have a direct line to the Oval Office." You were the only presidential candidate to honor us with your presence at the conference, and our members have never forgotten it.

Mr. President, you understand better than anyone the critical role played by the National Guard in securing our nation's borders. We responded to your call to action and deployed to the southern border utilizing the very same systems and equipment funded by these accounts. For that reason, we felt it was important to bring this urgent matter to your personal attention.

We respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss how we can work together to resolve this matter. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns and for your continued support of the men and women of the National Guard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael McGuire".

Michael McGuire  
Major General, U.S. Air Force  
NGAUS Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Roy Robinson".

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