FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2019

Washington, D.C. - Today, the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) offers its full support for Secretary Wilkie's proposed access standards for community care and emergency care. EANGUS believes these standards stay true to the intent of the MISSION Act from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA MISSION Act was endorsed by over 30 veteran service organizations, passed with overwhelming bipartisan support (347-70 in the House and 92-5 in the Senate), and signed into law by President Trump in June 2018. The VA MISSION Act stabilizes and reforms VA's health care system by consolidating VA's community care programs, defining clear standards for when a Veteran can access care outside of VA, and initiates a review of the department's infrastructure. The law also aims to reform VA's reimbursement and record-sharing systems for community providers.

EANGUS is excited to see Soldiers being given more choices and freedom in how they choose to receive their care. We believe that continuing to expand options and streamlining the process from previous programs will help all Veterans, especially Veterans that reside in rural areas. EANGUS fully supports the direction that VA has taken to help make VA benefits more Veteran focused, and stand ready to assist VA in its smooth implementation on June 6 2019.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States works to advance the interests of over a million Soldiers, Airmen, their families, retirees, and survivors. Reflecting the spirit of America in over 3,000 communities across the nation, the men and women of the National Guard serve to defend their nation from threats abroad as well as to respond to natural and manmade disasters in their home state.

Media Contact:
Stephen Patterson
Steve@eangus.org