

## ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES

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August 14, 2019

The Honorable John Boozman The United States Senate 141 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable John Hoeven The United States Senate 338 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boozman and Senator Hoeven,

On behalf of the members of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the U.S. (EANGUS), which represents the interests and concerns of well over one million members of the Army and Air National Guard, their family members, National Guard retirees, and survivors, we are pleased to offer our support for the *Montgomery GI Bill Parity Act of 2019*. Founded in 1972, EANGUS is dedicated to the principles of providing an adequate national defense and promoting the status, welfare, and professionalism of the men and women of the Army and Air National Guard by supporting legislation that provides adequate staffing, pay, benefits, entitlements, equipment, and installations for the National Guard.

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard recognizes how important access to education is to members of the Reserve components and National Guard. Allowing members of the Reserve components to utilize the Montgomery Selected Reserve GI Bill and Federal Tuition Assistance concurrently will ensure they reach parity with their Active Duty counterparts. EANGUS believes in providing all Servicemembers equal access to educational opportunities, and that ignoring this inequity between the Reserve components and their Active Duty counterparts overburdens National Guard Servicemembers attempting to cover the costs of their education. We strongly support the *Montgomery GI Bill Parity Act* and applaud closing this loophole to increase access to education for Servicemembers of the Reserve Component and the National Guard.

On behalf of our membership, The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States thanks you for your service and advocacy for our Nation's Veterans. We look forward to working with you and your staff to advocate for the *Montgomery GI Bill Parity Act*.

Sincerely,

Frank Yoakum Sergeant Major U.S. Army (Retired)

**Executive Director EANGUS**