



**EANGUS**

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The Honorable Joe Courtney  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) is the only military service association that represents the interests of every enlisted soldier and airmen in the Army and Air National Guard. With a constituency base of over 414,000 soldiers and airmen, their families, and a large retiree membership, EANGUS engages Capitol Hill on behalf of courageous Guard persons across this nation.

On behalf of EANGUS, I'd like to offer our letter of support for your legislation, the National Guard Technician Reenlistment and Retention Act of 2008.

Your bill will allow Guard members who join the full time work force as dual status military technicians to retain any bonuses to which they may be eligible. It also allows those who are already dual status military technicians to receive appropriate bonuses as any other Guard member may. It also repeals the nonpayment of overtime pay to dual status military technicians.

The prevailing but flawed conventional wisdom is that full time employment is incentive enough for dual status military technicians, and that this demographic should be specifically and statutorily denied a benefit. Although a condition of their employment is that they be a drilling Guard member, they are denied an incentive eligible to every other drilling Guard person.

Full time employment with the Guard is not necessarily an incentive to retain dual status military technicians. The unusual hours, the intertwining of part time and full time duties without compensation, the implied expectations of duty devotion clashing against civil service human resource law are neither incentive nor guarantee of employment continuity or Guard membership.

In addition, the inability of the Guard to pay overtime to dual status military technicians means the expectation to donate unpaid time to the job or unit infringes on their sense of patriotism and borders on viable labor relations complaints.

This Cold War mentality must end. The Cold War is over. The vestiges of it must disappear as well.

Thank you for your continued support of our military and veterans. If our association can be of further help, feel free to contact our Legislative Director, SGM (Ret) Frank Yoakum, at 703-519-3846 x22.

Working for America's Best!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Cline". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

MSG Michael P. Cline, USA (Ret)  
Executive Director