

## SERVICE SPECIFIC PRIORITIES

*ROA urges Congress to provide appropriations to support the Reserve Components highest priority for equipment as identified by the services.*

*ROA urges Congress to support the National Guard Reserve Equipment Appropriation in the budget to reduce shortages and replace equipment currently being used beyond their functional life.*

*ROA urges Congress to prohibit reprogramming NGREA funds.*

**ARMY NATIONAL GUARD** - Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT) Wrecker. This 11-ton wrecker provides lift tow and flat tow capability and can recover other HEMTT vehicles as well as medium and light tactical wheeled vehicles.

**ARMY RESERVE** – Army Reserve Combat Support Hospital Equipment. Only 4 of the 16 248 bed Army Reserve Combat Support Hospitals are fully equipped. This equipping risk is mitigated through the maintenance of three Army Reserve Regional Training Sites with minimal equipment upgrades to support on-going medical force design updates.

**NAVY RESERVE** – P-8A Squadron Ground Support Equipment (GSE). There is a significant amount of GSE required to transition two Reserve squadrons from P-3C to P-8A and allow them to perform routine maintenance, testing and diagnostics. Without this equipment, the squadrons will be unable to properly maintain their aircraft.

**MARINE CORPS RESERVE** – White Phosphor Night Vision Goggle Upgrade. Provides an increased visual environment by increased field of view, increased depth perception, increased spatial awareness to help mitigate against collisions, clearer targets and Landing Zone identification during nighttime operations

**AIR NATIONAL GUARD** – Isochronal Inspection Maintenance Stands. Aircraft maintenance is currently accomplished by using a mix of ladders and B-series stands. These maintenance workaround activities do not meet Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Administration (AFOSH) or OSHA standards.

**AIR FORCE RESERVE** – Jam Resistant Global Positioning System (GPS) (KC-135, A-10, F-16, C-5). Embedded GPS/INS (EGI) face warfare navigation challenges due to significant parts obsolescence issues. New sophisticated jamming techniques can seriously hinder mission success.

**COAST GUARD RESERVE** –Palm Infrared, Thermal Imager. Needed for PSU Shoreside Security Divisions to maintain perimeter security and entry control points for life support areas (base camps).

## ROA Legislative Priorities 117<sup>th</sup> Congress



*Supporting the Reserve force is part of what some other associations do; it's ALL ROA does.*

*Thank you to servicemembers, their families, and employers for continuing to support the nation overseas and with the COVID pandemic!*

### Guard and Reserve Overseas Activations

Currently Activated:	35,583
Deactivated Since 9/11:	1,010,919
Total:	1,046,502

*Activations as of February 14, 2022*

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### **Gray Area/Reduced Retirement Age: Implement Management**

**Health Care:** ROA urges Congress to provide the same health care coverage to retirees who qualify for gray area early age retirement. 10 U.S.C. §1074 **(H.R. 3512, H.R. 1997 and S. 829)**

**Interim Payment:** ROA urges Congress to add interim payment when the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) conducts an audit of points for retirement pay which can delay retirement pay. 10 U.S.C. §1415

**Centralized Website:** ROA urges the Department of Defense to establish a standard application and timeline process with one website location for reserve retirement applications to streamline the process. (Policy Change)

**Service Date:** ROA urges Congress to direct the Department of Defense to create a military service date that establishes the specific date the Reserve Component servicemember qualifies for early age retirement pay. 10 U.S.C. 12731(f)(2)(A)

**TAPS:** ROA urges Congress to direct DoD to budget and implement a mandatory Transition Assistance Program for retirement to ensure servicemembers understand the application process for age 60 pay and early age retirement pay. 10 U.S.C. 1142(a)(3)(A)

**Retired Reserve:** ROA urges Congress to direct the Reserve Components to identify and advise the servicemembers who have already transferred to the Retired Reserve about the specific date they qualify for retirement pay or early age retirement pay. 10 U.S.C. 12731(f)(2)(A)

### **Taxes: Update Tax Laws and Policies for Servicemembers**

**Employers:** ROA urges Congress to establish a tax credit for employers who hire members of the Reserve Components. 26 U.S.C. Chapter 1, Subtitle 1, Chapter 1, Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A. **(H.R. 1854 and S. 1178)**

**Mileage:** ROA urges Congress to amend to decrease the distance to 50 miles for the above-the-line deduction for travel expenses. 26 USC §62(a)(2)(E)

### **Taxes: Update Tax Laws and Policies for Military Families**

**Spouse Employment:** ROA urges Congress to create a target group for uniformed services spouses under the Work Opportunity Tax Credits to incentivize businesses to hire military spouses. 26 U.S.C. § 51(d)(1) **(H.R. 148 and H.R. 2974)**

**Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account:** ROA urges DoD to offer FSAs to the uniformed service when they are performing inactive and active duty. **(H.R. 148)**

### **Recruiting and Retention: U.S. Public Health**

**Retirement Pay:** ROA urges Congress to change the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund to pay for U.S. Public Health Service retirement and survivor benefit programs in the same accrual system as other branches of the military. 10 U.S.C. § 1461(a), 1463(a), 1465 and 1466.

**Health Care:** ROA urges Congress to include USPHS Ready Reserve in the TRICARE Reserve Select health insurance program 42 U.S.C. 213A

### **Veterans**

**Guard and Reserve Burial Benefits:** ROA urges Congress to allow state cemeteries with less-stringent burial criteria for veterans to be able to accept grant money from the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration. **(H.R. 3944)**

**State Veterans Home Access:** ROA urges Congress and the Department of VA to include uniformed services retirees, who were never activated, as eligible veterans for the purpose of admission to state veterans' homes with full funding. 38 CFR § 51.50.