

Reserve Organization of America 119th Congress defense policy portfolio

The Commission on the National Defense Strategy, an independent body charged with assessing the 2022 National Defense Strategy (NDS), found that:

- “In many ways, China is outpacing the United States and has largely negated the U.S. military advantage in the Western Pacific through two decades of focused military investment.”
- “The U.S. military lacks both the capabilities and the capacity required to be confident it can deter and prevail in combat.”
- “The U.S. defense industrial base (DIB) is unable to meet the equipment, technology, and munitions needs of the United States and its allies and partners.”
- “The consequences of an all-out war with a peer or near peer would be devastating.”
- “The U.S. public are largely unaware of the dangers the United States faces or the costs required to adequately prepare.”
- “The U.S. must engage globally with a presence – military, diplomatic, and economic – to maintain stability and preserve influence worldwide, including across the Global South, where China and Russia are extending their reach.”

ROA's 119th Congress policy portfolio, crafted in accordance with the Association's resolutions process, addresses these findings through a sole and exclusive focus on Reserve Component readiness.

Reserve Component funding, organization, and equipment

- **Resolution No. 24-11:** More clearly define the role of the reserve components in the NDS.
- **Resolution No. 23-14:** Strengthen and enhance Total Force policy to ensure reserve component assets and capabilities remain an integral element of the Total Force.
- **Resolution No. 23-13:** Ensure DoD's funding is at no less than 5 percent of GDP.
- **Resolution No. 24-12:** Budget for required and modernized equipment in the reserve components.
- **Resolution No. 22-07:** Oppose Continuing Resolutions; ensure full and partial government shutdowns *does not* prevent the U.S. Coast Guard from receiving mission-essential funding and its members from receiving their pay.
- **Resolution No. 23-19:** Fund the Individual Mobilization Augmentee programs to fully meet the strength and training levels of 100 percent of the validated authorized positions.

- **Resolution No. 24-18:** Provide enough paid training days to maintain proficiency for members of the Individual Ready Reserve with critical wartime specialties.
- **Resolution No. 24-05:** Pay for all authorized reserve component full-time support and exempt reserve component military technicians from future furloughs.
- **Resolution No. 23-12:** Ensure proper federal reserve representation within the Department of Defense and its senior joint and service staffs; mandate a representative from one of the federal reserve forces be appointed to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Joint Requirements Oversight Council; appropriate senior staff positions on the joint staff and services' senior staffs, with rank commensurate with each position as if they were held by an active component service member.
- **Resolution No. 22-11:** Increase the position of Assistant to the Chairman for National Guard Reserve Matters to the rank of Lt. Gen. or Vice Admiral.
- Implement Duty Status Reform.

Reserve Component personnel, employer, and family support

- **Resolution No. 22-28:** Provide continuity of TRICARE medical and dental coverage to reserve component members regardless of duty status.
- **Resolution No. 23-07:** Grant exception(s) to policy as required by the services for military technicians to be eligible for incentives and develop incentives that are comparable to the civilian maintenance technician sector.
- **Resolution No. 23-15:** Ensure programs such as the Transition Assistance Program and Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program are structured, funded, and staffed to meet the unique needs of reserve component service members and their families.
- **Resolution No. 24-04:** Require the uniformed services' reserve components to report on the effectiveness of their child care programs and provide recommendations for improving child care access.
- **Resolution No. 23-01:** Modernize the USCGR to optimize mobilization strength.
- **Resolution No. 23-02:** Empower the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to recruit, retain, train, and mobilize an elite and sufficient force of uniformed USPHS Ready Reserve officers.
- **Resolution No. 23-09:** Ensure the implementation of DoD Instruction 1336.01, *Certificate of Uniformed Service (DD Form 214/5 Series)*, through the issuance of the DD Form 214-1.
- **Resolution No. 24-01:** Ensure NOAA is adequately manned, trained, and equipped to execute its mission and jointly-operate with the other uniformed services to ensure military readiness.
- **Resolution No. 24-17:** Increase the differential wage payment tax credit in alignment with the economy and national security environment.
- Modernize the Joint Travel Regulations.