

The Reserve Components provide nearly half of the nation's military end strength at a fraction of the cost of an equivalent active-only force. Operations *Epic Fury* and *Midnight Hammer* confirm that Reserve forces are already mobilized, deployed, and exposed to combat risk. The FY 2027 NDAA is an opportunity to align statutory authority with operational reality.

**PRIORITY** **CODIFY THE DUTY STATUS REFORM ACT**

H.R. 6976 consolidates more than 30 fragmented duty statuses into four standardized categories, eliminates administrative gaps that interrupt TRICARE and BAH mid-mission, and modernizes Title 32 governance to enable seamless Total Force integration.

**ASK** Include H.R. 6976 in the FY 2027 NDAA with the bill's 10-year phased implementation framework.

**PRIORITY** **CONTINUITY OF RC PAY & TRAINING DURING A SHUTDOWN**

ROA supports S. 3168, the *Shutdown Fairness Act*, but pay alone does not preserve readiness. Routine IDT, annual training, and PME must be designated as excepted activities, with obligation authority for orders, travel, and schoolhouse operations.

**ASK** Codify S. 3168 and expand it to designate scheduled RC training and PME as excepted activities.

**PRIORITY** **PRESERVE ARMY RESERVE MEDEVAC CAPABILITY**

The *RESCUE Act* (S. 1951) preserves dedicated Army aeromedical evacuation within the Medical Service Corps and anchors clinical command within the medical department — guardrails essential to the Army Transformation Initiative and the casualty timelines INDOPACOM demands.

**ASK** Include S. 1951 in the FY 2027 NDAA to prevent ad hoc restructuring of organic RC MEDEVAC.

**PRIORITY** **TRAVEL EQUITY FOR DRILLING RESERVISTS**

H.R. 7593, the *Reserve Forces Travel Fairness Act*, makes a targeted correction to 37 U.S.C. § 452 — authorizing rental vehicle reimbursement for the full drill period and one adjacent travel day when members commute 150 miles or more.

**ASK** Include H.R. 7593 in the FY 2027 NDAA to align the JTR with how reservists actually travel.

**FUND NATIONAL DEFENSE AT ≥5% OF GDP**

A 5% commitment, paired with supplemental appropriations for active combat operations such as Operation Epic Fury, protects modernization accounts from being liquidated to fund day-to-day operational demand and ensures RC integration across all warfighting domains.

**ASK** Authorize national defense at no less than 5% of GDP with proportional Reserve Component investment.

**DELIVER RC DENTAL READINESS**

Only 7% of Selected Reserve members enroll in TRICARE Dental, driving costly urgent corrective care at mobilization processing sites. A premium-free benefit would cost roughly \$83M annually — less than 0.2% of the Defense Health Program — and resolve a documented driver of non-deployability.

**ASK** Senate Armed Services should include the *Dental Care for Our Troops Act* in the FY 2027 NDAA.

**REFORM THE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Build on Section 571 (FY25 NDAA) and Section 571(c) (FY26 NDAA) by amending TAP eligibility to 180 cumulative days, codifying a dedicated RC curriculum under 10 U.S.C. § 1144, integrating reserve spouses, and establishing a Senate-confirmed Under Secretary of Defense for Transition.

**ASK** Adopt ROA's TAP statutory text and elevate transition oversight to a department-level office.

**PASS THE MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT**

H.R. 2102 / S. 1032 ends the offset that denies concurrent receipt to combat-injured medical retirees with fewer than 20 years of service. Earned retired pay and service-connected disability compensation are statutorily distinct — not duplicative.

**ASK** Include the Major Richard Star Act in the FY 2027 NDAA.

**STABILIZE TSNRP FUNDING**

The TriService Nursing Research Program is DoD's only military nursing research program. Its prolonged-casualty-care, expeditionary-nursing, and resuscitative-medicine research is directly applicable to INDOPACOM evacuation timelines, yet TSNRP is funded through O&M that DoD may reprogram without congressional consent.

**ASK** Codify TSNRP as a dedicated \$6M budget line item under the Combat & Operational Medicine account.

**ACCOMPLISHED** **442ND FIGHTER WING MISSION SUSTAINED**

A direct outcome of ROA's sustained advocacy: the A-10 mission at Whiteman AFB has been extended through 2030, preserving the 442nd Fighter Wing's combat-credible experience and 70-year lineage. ROA continues to work with the Department of the Air Force on an enduring follow-on flying mission.

**ASK** Sustain FY 2026 NDAA § 147(c) oversight; maintain the divestment prohibition until a follow-on mission is assigned.