



**LEGISLATIVE & RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT  
NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION  
2022 Annual Report**

*Chairman: Mark Pickett*

**Members of the Committee**

Nick Tomlin  
Brian Pierce  
Greg Jenkins  
Scott Schnack  
James Mckee  
Larry Coleman

**Legislative Initiatives and Resolutions Committee meetings and major events:**

- Bi-Monthly meeting held on the second full week Wednesday at 1400hrs
- Survey request for legislation suggestions for 2023-24 session

**2021-22 Big Three Current State Legislative Initiatives:**

1. **Military Retiree State Income Tax Relief** – The General Assembly is currently reviewing and voting on several versions of Military Retire State Income Tax Relief. One version is all military retirees in the State while another is ALL State Employees. NC, while stating that it's "one of the most military friendly", is in the minority of states not providing this benefit (33 other State do). Your association is in close contact with the bill sponsors but we strongly encourage members to contact your representative and encourage their support for these bills.

**Update** – This passed as part of the 2021 budget and is effective retro-active to 1 Januarys 2021

2. **NCTAP Funding** - Increase of \$900,000 to current annual NCNG State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) funding to cover anticipated future shortfalls. NCTAP is one of our most effective recruiting and retention tools for Soldiers and Airmen. Increasing demand and rising tuition cost continues to decrease available funds. This can be accomplished using legislative or administrative actions both being worked by your Association.

**Update** – This passed as part of the National Guard Omnibus Bill, part of the NC Budget

3. **NCNG State Pension** - Increase in NCNG State Pension funding to meet future requirements. This year, in close coordination with and the support of the NC Treasure's Retirement Service Division, an additional \$2 million of funding was made available to the pension fund on a two-year non-recurring basis. The intent is to bring the NCNG Pension Fund to the level of funding on par with other NC Treasurer managed pensions.

**Update** – The additional funds were included as part of the NC Treasurer's budget. With the additional funding the pension fund has moved from 76%, funded to over 92% funded and should be well over 94% funded in the next year. Once the funding achieve over 94% the fund will be in a position that it is realistic for the Association to ask for monthly benefit increases.

**2021 Federal Level support to NGAUS and EANGUS.** The Same Equipment, The Same Resources, and The Same Benefits for the Same Mission. Some of the agenda items with direct impact to the NCNG:

1. Increased Full-time Manning and Support
2. Zero Cost TRICARE to Ensure Reserve Component Readiness
3. Increased National Guard Military Construction
4. Protecting National Guard Equities in Duty State Reform
5. Continued National Guard Integration in Total Force Cyber Mission and Training
6. AH64E Apache Battalions Equipped at 24 Aircraft
7. National Guard Counterdrug Program

**2023-2024 State Legislative options.**

1. Reduced hunting & fishing license cost
2. Improvement of NCNG Pension to include survivor benefit program
3. Education benefit improvements

**Final Thoughts:** Our committee continues to look for ways to improve and increase benefits to our Members. We encourage you to contact Larry Coleman, our NCNGA President or myself with any other recommendations or feedback.

| Category   | Benefit  | State  | Additional Notes   |
|------------|--|--|--|
| Auto       | One free annual car registration   | Alaska   |  |
|            | Distinctive National Guard License Plates available  | Arizona; Arkansas; Delaware; Georgia; Kansas; Louisiana; Minnesota; Nebraska; New Mexico; North Dakota; Ohio; Rhode Island; South Carolina; South Dakota; Texas;   |  |
| Auto       | Free motor vehicle license/renewal & no examination  | Connecticut  |  |
| Auto       | Free State of Florida license tag  | Florida  |  |
| Auto       | State vehicle weight tax exemption for members (one  | Hawaii   |  |
| Auto       | Drivers license can now display the word "Veteran" on  | Iowa; Pennsylvania   |  |
| Auto       | 25% car insurance discount   | Louisiana  |  |
| Auto       | CDL Driving Test Waiver  | Rhode Island   |  |
| Auto       | Reduced fees for county, city, and state automobile  | Virginia   |  |
| Benefit    | PX & Commissary privileges for Guard Members   | Virginia   |  |
| Education  | National Guard Education Benefit (ANGEAP)  | Alabama  |  |
|            | Scholarship Programs   | Alabama; California; Colorado; Florida; Montana; Ohio; Pennsylvania; Vermont; Virgin   |  |
|            | State tuition assistance   | Alaska; California; Hawaii; Illinois; Indiana; Iowa; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maine; Massachusetts; Minnesota; Missouri; Nebraska; Nevada*; New Hampshire; New York*; North Carolina; North Dakota; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Carolina; South Dakota; Tennessee; | *Nevada offers book reimbursement as well<br>*NY Tuition assistance up to \$43,500 |
| Education  | Education Tuition Waiver for Post 9-11 Purple Heart  | Arizona  |  |
| Education  | Partnership with Top Universities  | Colorado   |  |
| Education  | Tuition waiver applies to undergraduate and graduate   | Connecticut  |  |
| Education  | Up to 100% tuition reimbursement from the State of   | Delaware   |  |
| Education  | Free Spouse College from DeVry with soldier enrollment & EANGUS Membership   | Florida  |  |
| Education  | Tuition Assistance should be changed to "Service Cancelable Loan Program"  | Georgia  |  |
| Education  | Remission of fees for disable veteran dependents   | Indiana  |  |
| Education  | Educational grants (10 per year) provided by NGAM  | Michigan   |  |
| Education  | Wisconsin GI Bill for Wisconsin NG Veterans, at no cost, for 128 credit hours at any University of Wisconsin college or associated technical college | Wisconsin  |  |
| Employment | Improved Veteran's Reemployment Rights   | Alabama  |  |
| Employment | Improvements in the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)   | Alabama  |  |
| Employment | Work for Warrior Program   | California   |  |
| Employment | Professional Development opportunities   | Colorado   |  |
| Employment | Any military certification received will transfer to a CT State Certification or license   | Connecticut  |  |
| Employment | Employment protections for state active duty   | Georgia; Illinois; Iowa  |  |
| Employment | Stat USERRA coverage for guardsmen called to state   | Missouri   |  |
| Financial  | All federal pay received for NG duty is exempt from  | Arizona  |  |
| Financial  | 100% of military retirement pay exempt from state  | Arizona; Arkansas; Connecticut; Ohio   |  |
| Financial  | Discounted property taxes  | Florida  |  |
| Financial  | State pension for 10 consecutive years of service and 20 years of creditable service   | Georgia  |  |
| Financial  | State tax credit for active and retired members of the Georgia National Guard  | Georgia  |  |
| Financial  | State tax exemption- all NG members receive a tax credit of \$5,795.00   | Hawaii   |  |
| Financial  | Illinois Military Family Relief Fund   | Illinois   |  |
| Financial  | State active duty pay and benefits equivalent to federal duty  | Illinois; Iowa   |  |
| Financial  | Emergency relief   | Kansas; Rhode Island   |  |
| Financial  | No state income tax on drill pay or Title 10 or Title 32 income  | Kentucky   |  |
| Financial  | Tax credits on state income tax (additional dependent for being a Guard member)  | Kentucky   |  |
| Financial  | \$1,000 for anyone who deploys to a combat zone; \$500 for homeland deployments  | Massachusetts  |  |
| Financial  | No Michigan tax on Guard pay   | Michigan   |  |
| Financial  | Michigan retirement (\$60/month) for Guard members upon completion of 20 years of service  | Michigan   |  |
| Financial  | No state income tax for Drill Status Guardsmen and Federal Technician checks when performing Unit Training   | Minnesota  |  |
| Financial  | \$15,000 state income tax exclusion  | Mississippi  |  |
| Financial  | Tax break for Military Retirement  | Nebraska   |  |
| Financial  | Active military pay exempt from local taxes  | Pennsylvania   |  |
| Financial  | State pension for 20 years of service  | South Carolina   |  |
| Financial  | No South Carolina income tax for traditional drills and annual training pay for current or retired members   | South Carolina   |  |
| Financial  | A percentage of your federal retirement pension is excludable from SC tax  | South Carolina   |  |
| Financial  | \$3,000 Tax Exempt Guard Pay (State Tax)   | Virginia   |  |
| Financial  | Wildland Firefighting State Active Duty Pay Increases  | Washington   |  |
| Insurance  | State Sponsored Life Insurance   | Arizona; Colorado; Georgia; North Carolina; South Carolina; Utah; Vermont  |  |
| Insurance  | No-cost \$250k death benefit for service members   | Louisiana  |  |
| Insurance  | SGLI reimbursement of 50% of the premiums paid each year as a member of MANG   | Massachusetts  |  |
| Insurance  | Affordable health insurance  | Missouri   |  |
| Insurance  | Life insurance (SGLI)  | Missouri; Nevada; New Mexico   |  |
| Insurance  | "No cost" term life insurance (\$1,000) for all Guardsmen regardless of membership   | North Carolina; South Carolina; Texas  |  |
| Insurance  | \$10,000 free life insurance policy for first year for new Guard enlistments   | Texas; Wisconsin   |  |
| Insurance  | Free \$1,000 policy for being a member   | Utah; Vermont  |  |
|            | Any member of the NG can acquire "Veteran Status" after serving 20 years in the NG without being on a  | Alabama  |  |