



**EANGUS**

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The Honorable Christopher Dodd  
448 Senate Russell Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510-0702

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 thank you for your leadership in offering the Support for Injured Servicemembers Act as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for 2008. We support your efforts to allow the families of our wounded warriors to take up to six month of unpaid leave, expanding the benefits provided under the Family and Medical Leave Act, which currently allows only 12 weeks of leave.

Often the families of our wounded warriors are their caregivers. Injured service members sometimes have longer healing and rehabilitation time than from wars past. Many family members are required to quit or take extended vacations from their jobs to care for their loved ones without assurances that they will have a position in which to return in the future.

We believe the families need more time to take care of wounded warriors just as the wounded need time to heal. This care is vital. Your amendment is critical and timely for our National Guard members. It's the right thing to do and will help in maintain a ready force and satisfied families.

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!

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