



National Lieutenant Governors Association

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For Immediate Release

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS BATTLE FOR NATIONAL GUARD

On the eve of an important congressional hearing, the nation's lieutenant governors are supporting the National Guard. Forty-one seconds-in-command (Lt. Governors, Secretaries of state, and Senate Presidents) are going on record asking the United States President and Congress to carefully consider proposed federal funding cuts to the National Guard, the only military force shared by the states and the federal government.

"National Guard Bureau Chief General Frank Grass is scheduled to testify to the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee for Defense on proposed reductions tomorrow," said NLGA Director Julia Hurst.

"The National Guard is an integral part of our state emergency response teams providing critical assistance during disasters," said Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman (CT-D). "Lieutenant Governors from around the country support their efforts and are urging careful review of funding and resources."

"The accomplishments of the National Guard are unparalleled in response to flood, wildfire, storm, and serving our nation overseas," said Lt. Governor Todd Lamb (OK-R). "The National Guard is an effective and efficient element of U.S. homeland security and public safety nationwide."

In a letter to the U.S. President, seconds-in-command of the states and territories note various proposed National Guards cuts would return funding to a pre-9/11 level. "As state leaders, these lieutenant governors, secretaries of state, and senate presidents respect the need to review, modernize, and balance budgets. But they request that this budgetary scrutiny include transparent, careful examination of the cost effectiveness of the National Guard and the essential nature of its service to states and territories," said NLGA Director Julia Hurst.

A copy of the co-signed letter is posted at the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) web site at www.nlga.us.

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