



18-21 AUGUST 2024

# 2024 RESOLUTION PROPOSALS

EANGUS  
2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

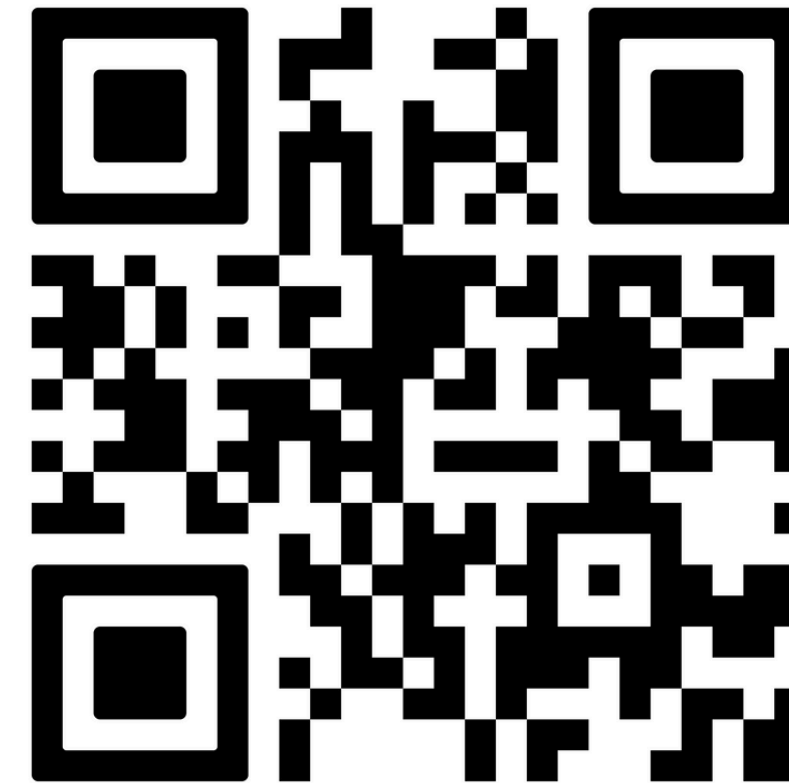


# LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT



## Sample Agenda:

- Nov 12th – Travel Day/Welcome Night Social
- Nov 13th – Day 1 of Legislative Summit:
  - 0700-1300 – Meetings and catered breakfast & lunch.
  - 1300-end of day – Congressional visits
- Nov 14th – Day 2 of Legislative Summit:
  - 0700-1300 – Meetings and catered breakfast & lunch.
  - 1300-1800 – Congressional visits
  - 1800 – Congressional Awards Reception
- Nov 15th – Travel Day





# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



EANGUS priorities published in July 2024.

1

**Comprehensive  
health care  
coverage**



2

**Support for  
child care and  
family  
programs**



3

**Enhanced  
educational  
benefits**



4

**Equitable pay  
and retirement  
compensation**



5

**Modernization  
of equipment  
and training**





# OVERVIEW



- 1** Veterans Court Services Expansion Program
- 2** Family Care Plan- Military Family Transition Assistance
- 3** TRICARE for Young Adults Extension
- 4** Saving the Pacific Branch Home for Disabled Veterans
- 5** National Guard Child Care Tax Credit
- 6** Family Reunification Services
- 7** Expedited Return of Deported Veterans to the U.S
- 8** Expansion of Access to IVF and All Other Reproductive Healthcare
- 9** Reduced Retirement Eligibility Age of Ready Reserve Members
- 10** Junior Enlisted Pay Raise
- 11** Guardsmen's Benefit for Early 401(k) Withdrawal
- 12** Automatic 100% VA Disability Compensation for National Guard Vietnam Veterans
- 13** Retention of 10% Tinnitus Disability
- 14** Retention of Enlistment/Retention Incentives when Accepting T32 AGR or Tech Jobs





# OVERVIEW CONT.

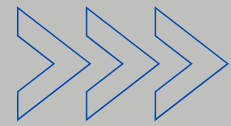


- 15** Retiree Continued Contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan
- 16** Military Occupation Compatibility with Civilian Certificates & Skills
- 17** Automatic re-enrollment in TRICARE Reserve Select and current dental carrier
- 18** Addressing Inequities in the USAF's Career Opportunities On-Line (COOL) Program
- 19** Ensuring Full Military Retirement Pay for Veterans with Disabilities
- 20** Transfer GI Bill Benefits After Retirement
- 21** Disparity in Buying Back Title 32 AGR Service: Title 32 / 5 Tech Retirement
- 22** Support of the Servicewomen and Veterans Menopause Research Act
- 23** EANGUS Information Clearinghouse, re: "Defend the Guard Act"
- 24** Payroll Allotments for National Guard and Reserve Members
- 25** Saving Tuition Assistance and Education Benefits
- 26** Wearable Less-Than-Lethal Tactical Response Systems
- 27** Safety Beacon





# INTRODUCTION



In this presentation, EANGUS will be grading the 2024 Resolutions based on...

1. Feasibility
2. Cost
3. Legislative Priority

With additional comments and updates on progress if applicable.

Each Resolution will get on **overall score** based on the categories above. This score will be represented by either a green, yellow or red star



Important  
and  
achievable



Important  
but needs to  
be edited



Not a  
realistic  
resolution





# FEASIBILITY



**Feasibility** is measured based off positive confirmation for the following categories. Included are some questions considered during the assessment:

## 1. Technical

- Can it be built or engineered with current technology?
- Is the necessary expertise and infrastructure readily available?

## 2. Organizational

- Will this require significant changes to the current organizational structure of the military? If so, are they absolutely necessary?

## 3. Economic/Financial

- Is the cost-benefit ratio favorable for implementing the change?

## ★ 4. Political

- Is this primarily a state or federal issue? Should the focus be on the state level rather than federal?
- Is the current political climate receptive of this initiative?
- Is additional groundwork or legislation required before this can be pursued at the federal level?

Each Resolution will get  
on **overall score** based  
on the categories above:

**HIGH**

Meets all 4  
categories

**MED**

Meets 2-3  
categories

**LOW**

Meets 0-1  
categories





# COST



**Cost** is measured based on estimates from the following categories. Included are some questions considered during the assessment:

## 1. Cost-Benefit Ratio

- Is there a current Congressional Budget Office (CBO) score for this?
- Will this require one time or continuous funding?

## 2. National Defense Budget

- Will major changes be required to the defense budget?
- Are there existing funds that can be reallocated to support this initiative?

## 3. Ethicality, Risk Management and Accountability

- Would this proposal be an ethical use funding?
- Are there or will it be necessary for safeguards to prevent misuse of the funds?

Each Resolution will get  
on **overall score** based  
on the categories above:

**HIGH**

Require major  
increase in budget

**TBD**

Total cost is not  
determined

**LOW**

Cost is low, reallocation,  
or a non issue





## 24-01D: VETERANS COURT SERVICES EXPANSION PROGRAM

- 1 The Veterans Treatment Court Program is a federally funded grant program which supports state, local and tribal efforts to plan and implement the operations of veteran treatment courts.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-01D:



**Feasibility:** HIGH

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Comprehensive health care coverage

**Comments:** Will enable national office to support legislation to expand VTC programs, create white papers, and organize information from states to expand programs in other states.

**OVERALL:**



SUBMITTING STATE: CA



## 24-02D: FAMILY CARE PLAN- MILITARY FAMILY TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

**2** Revise the family care plan to support nontraditional military families' needs before, during, and post deployment.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-02D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Support for child care and family programs

**Comments:** This is a very open-ended resolution. It will allow future support of legislation but the intent is not centered on any specific or focused efforts.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: CA**



## 24-03D: TRICARE FOR YOUNG ADULTS EXTENSION

**3** To remove the government exemption in the ACA that requires healthcare plans to provide healthcare coverage for dependents until they are 26.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-03D:



**Feasibility:** **HIGH**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Comprehensive health care coverage

**Comments:** There is bipartisan support for this on Capitol Hill. Great resolution.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: UT**



## 24-04D: SAVING THE PACIFIC BRANCH HOME FOR DISABLED VETERANS

- 4 Require the VA to provide adequate veteran housing and uphold the integrity of the land use deeds granted for the establishment of the Pacific Branch National Home for Veterans.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-04D:



**Feasibility:** **LOW**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**  
• Miscellaneous

**Comments:** This is a state specific issue and needs to be handled at that level. It falls outside of the national office's scope with the region specificity.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: CA**



## 24-05D: NATIONAL GUARD CHILD CARE TAX CREDIT

**5** Provide local child care businesses with a much needed tax benefit to provide child care for qualified dependent children of National Guard Soldiers and Airmen.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-05D:



**Feasibility:** **HIGH**

**Cost:** **HIGH**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Support for child care and family programs

**Comments:** Lots of bipartisan support for this on Capitol Hill. Rep. Cesar Santos (TX) approved to conduct study on potential programs.

- 4 current resolutions on child care:
  - 23-05, 22-09, 22-18 & 21-13

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: PA**



**6** VA Disability Compensation greater than the Federal Poverty Level Guidelines disqualifies Veterans from having a court reporter, legal aid and a fee waiver.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-06D:



**Feasibility:** **LOW**

**Cost:** **HIGH**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Support for child care and family programs

**Comments:** This issue is state and agency specific. Good to handle between states throughout EANGUS, but not at the national level.

**OVERALL:**





## 24-07D: EXPEDITED RETURN OF DEPORTED VETERANS TO THE U.S.

**7** Call to stop deporting veterans and expedite the return of deported veterans to the United States.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-07D:



**Feasibility:** **HIGH**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Support for child care and family programs

**Comments:** This is a high priority for many members on Capitol Hill. Great initiative.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: CA**



## 24-08D: EXPANSION OF ACCESS TO IVF AND ALL OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE

**8** Expand IVF and Family Building Services for Veterans' and remove the requirement that medical records must show infertility was caused by deployment or an event during deployment.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-08D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Comprehensive health care coverage

**Comments:** This aligns with resolution 23-10, but this is for VA specific issues compared to just TRICARE. White papers can be written to cover both sides of this issue.

**OVERALL:**



SUBMITTING STATE: CA



## 24-09D: REDUCED RETIREMENT ELIGIBILITY AGE OF READY RESERVE MEMBERS

9 Reduced retirement eligibility age of Ready Reserve members from 60 years of age minus active duty time served.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-09D:



**Feasibility:** **LOW**

**Cost:** **HIGH**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** This is not a feasible resolution for passage, but would be good for future discussions and as a long-term goal.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: OH**



**10** Recognizing the disparity in pay raises and the impact on junior enlisted personnel's quality of life & retention rates.

EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-10D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** HIGH

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** This is high priority for EANGUS. There has been pushback from higher headquarters (SECAF) and some on Capitol Hill.

OVERALL:



## 24-11D: GUARDSMEN'S BENEFIT FOR EARLY 401(K) WITHDRAWAL

**11** Allow guardsmen to make early withdrawals from their 401(k) plans without penalty to pay off the balance of their home loan. mortgage.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-11D:



**Feasibility:** **LOW**

**Cost:** **LOW**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** If this was tied into a VA home loan or other specific government program, then it could do something. Otherwise this isn't passable as a law.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: HI**



## 24-12D: AUTOMATIC 100% VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR NATIONAL GUARD VIETNAM VETERANS

# 12 Automatic 100% VA Disability Compensation for the National Guard Vietnam Conflict Veterans.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-12D:



**Feasibility:** **LOW**

**Cost:** **HIGH**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** There is not support for this type of initiative out on Capitol Hill and it will be an extremely high cost.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: HI**

## 24-13D: RETENTION OF 10% TINNITUS DISABILITY

**13** For Veterans who have not yet received a rating for tinnitus, the new rules could mean they will not be able to get a separate compensable rating for tinnitus.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-13D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Comprehensive health care coverage

**Comments:** Is this rule actually still in the works or where does it stand? Cannot find if still an issue.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: SD**



## 24-14D: RETENTION OF ENLISTMENT/RETENTION INCENTIVES WHEN ACCEPTING T32 AGR OR TECH JOBS

**14** You lose your retention incentives if you accept a T32 AGR or Tech employment, and this is deterring some of the highly qualified individuals from applying.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-14D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** This is a great initiative to fight for.  
Would be a hard sell on Capitol Hill but necessary.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: SD**

## 24-15D: RETIREE CONTINUED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN

**15** Allows someone to TSP to roll into another civilian IRA after separation, but this could be a retention tool if retirees are allowed to continue to contribute.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-15D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** Resubmission from 2021. Could either help or hurt retention. Lots of work would be needed to develop and establish this.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: SD**



## 24-16D: MILITARY OCCUPATION COMPATIBILITY WITH CIVILIAN CERTIFICATES & SKILLS

**16** Create or expand exception to policies for training for Military Occupation Skills that are closely related to civilian education, experience and training.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-16D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** Resubmission from 2021. There are lots of cases where this already exists. Expanding would need to originate from NGB/higher headquarters and Career Field Managers not necessarily from Capitol Hill.

**OVERALL:**



SUBMITTING STATE: SD

## 24-17D: AUTOMATIC RE-ENROLLMENT IN TRICARE RESERVE SELECT AND CURRENT DENTAL CARRIER

**17** Automatic re-enrollment in TRICARE Reserve Select and current dental carrier after Active Duty time in which TRICARE Prime automatically kicked in.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-17D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Comprehensive health care coverage

**Comments:** This is a good idea, but has logistical issues. This has been a long-standing issue that EANGUS wants.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: SD**



## 24-18D: ADDRESSING INEQUITIES IN THE USAF'S CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ON-LINE (COOL) PROGRAM

**18** A significant disparity exists within the USAF COOL Program regarding eligibility criteria, particularly for Airmen serving in the Reserve Component who are often neglected these employment development opportunities.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-18D:



**Feasibility:** **MED**

**Cost:** **HIGH**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Enhanced educational benefits

**Comments:** Airmen are already allowed to utilize the COOL program when on Title 10/32 active orders. Schools want this program for additional usage.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: KY**

## 24-19D: ENSURING FULL MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY FOR VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES

**19** Currently, military retirees who also receive VA disability pay face a reduction in their retirement benefit if they are less than 50% disabled. This resolution calls to enact legislation to allow for full concurrent receipt of military retirement and VA disability compensation.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-19D:



**Feasibility:** **HIGH**

**Cost:** **HIGH**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** Expanding the Richard Star Act. Great resolution.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: KY**



## 24-20D: TRANSFER GI BILL BENEFITS AFTER RETIREMENT

**20** Allow service members who retire to transfer their POST 9/11 GI Bill benefits without any further service obligation.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-20D:



**Feasibility:** **LOW**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Enhanced educational benefits
- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** This could cause major retention issues, especially on the Active Duty side.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: KY**

## 24-21D: DISPARITY IN BUYING BACK TITLE 32 AGR SERVICE: TITLE 32 / 5 TECH RETIREMENT

**21** Current FERS Policy/Code does not allow the Title 32 nor Title 5 Technician to buy back any Title 32 AGR service for use towards retirement. This disparity needs to be investigated and corrected for future Guard members.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-21D:



**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** There needs to be clear research done on what can be bought back and what is to be done. Can be a complicated issue once in the weeds of it.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: VA**



## 24-22D: SUPPORT OF THE SERVICEWOMEN AND VETERANS MENOPAUSE RESEARCH ACT

22

Urge Congress to enact H.R.7596 “Servicewomen and Veterans Menopause Research Act” to direct the Secretaries of Defense and of Veterans Affairs to conduct research related to menopause, perimenopause, or mid-life women’s health, and for other purposes.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-22D:

**Comments:** This is a great act to support.

**Feasibility:** MED

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Comprehensive health care coverage



**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: OH**

24-23D: EANGUS INFORMATION  
CLEARINGHOUSE, RE: "DEFEND THE GUARD  
ACT"

**23** Requesting EANGUS to monitor state legislation of Defend the Guard Act and share information with all states.

EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-23D:



**Feasibility:** HIGH

**Cost:** LOW

**Legislative Priority:**

- Miscellaneous

**Comments:** Fighting the Defend the Guard Act is important. However, putting the sole responsibility on the national office to monitor every state would be extremely time consuming.

OVERALL:



SUBMITTING STATE: MT

## 24-24D: PAYROLL ALLOTMENTS FOR NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS

**24** Members of the National Guard/Reserve should be afforded the same opportunity as the active component when it comes to military pay allotments.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-24D:



**Feasibility:** **MED**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Equitable pay and retirement compensation

**Comments:** This would require system modifications or complete overhaul to truly solve this issue. It would be difficult to make any headway with the current system.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: AZ**



## 24-25D: SAVING TUITION ASSISTANCE AND EDUCATION BENEFITS

**25** The U.S. Army and Air Force should expand, rather than reduce, existing educational benefits for National Guardsmen.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-25D:



**Feasibility:** **HIGH**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Enhanced educational benefits

**Comments:** Education benefits is a major incentive for recruiting/retention. Cutting programs to almost nothing could be detrimental.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: FL**

## 24-26D: WEARABLE LESS-THAN-LETHAL TACTICAL RESPONSE SYSTEMS

**26** Urge Congress to increase funding for the development and production of wearable, less-than-lethal response systems to increase ground force capabilities.

### EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-26D:



**Feasibility:** **HIGH**

**Cost:** **TBD**

**Legislative Priority:**

- Modernization of equipment and training

**Comments:** Improving the quality of equipment for ground force troops while reducing the overall weight is a great goal. This is an easy proposal for members of Congress to get behind.

**OVERALL:**



**SUBMITTING STATE: FL**

**27** Funding for personal light beacons would enhance the safety and effectiveness of National Guardsmen when in training and combat scenarios.

EANGUS SCORECARD FOR 24-27D:



**Feasibility:** HIGH

**Cost:** TBD

**Legislative Priority:**

- Modernization of equipment and training

**Comments:** Safety beacons would assist greatly when performing recon and surveillance in training or actual combat. This proposal could gain support from all components and branches of the military.

OVERALL:





# EANGUS LEGISLATIVE TEAM



**MICHAEL T. LANE**

**Legislative Director**

michael@eangus.org

318-516-0017



**DAVID J. DANIELS, IV.**

**Manager of Legislative Affairs**

david@eangus.org

251-591-5458

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



18-21 AUGUST 2024

