March 8, 2017

The Honorable Bruce Poliquin  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1208 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Poliquin:

On behalf of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States which represents the interests of over 400,000 enlisted men and women of the Army and Air National Guard, we endorse, *The Fair Treatment for our National Guard and Reservists Act* to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

One weekend each month, members of the National Guard report for duty. Frequently, these men and women have to drive great distances, sometimes across state lines, to report for drill weekend. Members of the National Guard often times have to pay a high price for their commute because of high gas prices and wear and tear on their cars.

Since federal employees are able to deduct from their taxes travel expenses for work-related travel of more than 50 miles, we believe Members of the National Guard should be afforded the same relief. Unfortunately, all Guardsmen and women, regardless of state, must travel at least 100 miles to take advantage of that same deduction.

We agree with you, that it is unfair and wrong to treat the Guard and Reserve differently than federal employees, in this regard. We hope that your colleagues will co-sponsor H.R. 4658, and that your legislation will be swiftly considered and adopted by the Congress.

Thank you for your hard work to support the active and reserve components, Veterans, and family members. EANGUS stands ready to work with you and your staff to make sure this important, timely bill is signed into law.

Frank Yoakum

Sergeant Major, US Army (retired)

Executive Director