



ENLISTED ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES

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Air Combat Superiority

The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS), on behalf of nearly 440,000 Guardsmen across the 50 states, three territories, and the District of Columbia, urges Congress to ensure the Air National Guard maintains the 25 fighter missions it currently provides by legislating the recapitalization of units at a one for one rate as the Air Force divests legacy combat aircraft.

The 25 Air National Guard (ANG) fighter squadrons are essential to the United States air defense and homeland security. They provide a ready force of experienced pilots, maintainers and aircraft who can be rapidly mobilized in times of crisis. The ANG also plays a vital role in training new pilots and maintainers and supporting civil authorities during natural disasters and other emergencies.

The ANG is responsible for defending the United States airspace from enemy aircraft. The 25 fighter squadrons make up 21% of the total Air Force, 30% of the United States total combat power, and 94% of the homeland defense air combat mission; however, they only consume 7% of the Air Forces total budget.

As a vital component of the Air Force's Total Force Concept, the ANG is critical to overall wartime readiness. In times of war, the ANG can be rapidly mobilized to augment the active-duty Air Force. The 25 fighter squadrons are well-trained and equipped.

The ANG plays a vital role in training new pilots and maintainers. The 25 fighter squadrons provide a realistic training environment for pilots and train maintainers on the latest aircraft systems. This training helps ensure the Air Force has a well-trained force ready to meet any challenge.

Any loss to the force structure of the Air National Guard is a loss to the combat power of the country. Ensuring the ANG maintains 25 fighter squadrons is critical to today's national defense strategy.

For further information on the Air National Guard's fighter missions contact EANGUS at eangus@eangus.org.