



Legislative Committee Meeting

13 February 2026

SUBJECT: Annual NGATN Legislative Committee Meeting

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of the meeting to provide situational awareness of current NGATN, TNNG, and NGAUS Legislative Initiatives, discuss future NGATN Initiatives, and discuss the purpose of the committee.

2. Agenda:

- 1330-1340 Welcome and Introductions
- 1340-1400 NGATN 2025 Wins!
 - Medical Readiness Act (TRICARE Reimbursement)
- 1400-1405 TNNG Initiatives 2025
 - SB 1291 / HB 0114 – Tennessee STRONG Act Renewal
 - SB 0293 / HB 0020 – Tennessee State Guard Budget Clarification
 - SB 0176 / HB 0665 – Military Recruiter Access to Public High Schools
- 1405-1415 2026 State Legislative Cycle
 - HB1526 / SB1632 – Maryville Armory Naming
 - HB1764 / SB1468 – McNairy County Armory Naming
 - HB1677 / SB1692 – Military Families Licensing Recognition Act
 - HB1801 / SB2629 – Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption
 - HB2397 / SB2428 – Veteran Hiring Preference Expansion
 - HB2550 / SB2238 – Hunting for Heroes Act
- 1415-1425 NGAUS
 - *See hand out
- 1425-1430 SB2679 – Bring Our National Guard Home Act ~~Defend the Guard (HB 0129 / SB 0156)~~
- 1430-UTC Recommendations for Future NGATN Initiatives

3. POC for this committee is COL Brad "Damon" Bradford, (615) 618-9701, brad.d.bradford.mil@army.mil and bradfordbd@yahoo.com.



NGATN Wins 2025!

Medical Readiness Act

Overview: Proposal would provide every traditional member of the TNG an \$80 reimbursement for TRICARE Reserve Select. The reimbursement is based on an individual policy (\$72 per month) but would not prevent SMs from purchasing the family plan.

TNNG Initiatives 2025

SB 1291 / HB 0114 – Tennessee STRONG Act Renewal

Summary: Renewed and modernized tuition assistance for members of the Tennessee National Guard.

Key Changes:

- Increased bachelor's degree cap from 120 to 130 credit hours
- Reduced reimbursement window from 90 to 45 days
- Clarified eligible mandatory fees
- Secured recurring \$4 million annual funding

Impact: Improves recruitment and retention and aligns state benefits with federal tuition assistance standards.

SB 0293 / HB 0020 – Tennessee State Guard Budget Clarification

Summary: Established the Tennessee State Guard as a separate budgetary entity within the Military Department.

Impact: Enhances fiscal transparency and improves internal governance structure.

SB 0176 / HB 0665 – Military Recruiter Access to Public High Schools

Summary: Requires public high schools to provide military recruiters equal access to students if other organizations receive similar access.

Requirements:

- Monthly recruiter presence during lunch periods
- Bi-monthly follow-up access for interested students
- Access to directory information (if provided to others)

Impact: Strengthens recruiting pipeline and ensures equitable access.