



### **NCSL's Military and Veterans' Affairs Resolution:**

#### **Preserve the Army National Guard:**

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) recognizes that the Army National Guard (ARNG) is a vital tool for helping states manage and respond to emergencies and natural disasters at home and abroad. A strong ARNG ensures an operational resource and a strategic reserve for our active duty military branches in combat roles overseas, as well as adapting to complex missions domestically.

NCSL urges the federal government to maintain current funding levels for the ARNG in order to preserve their highly regarded capabilities and to ensure that they are always prepared for duties in the states and abroad in service to our country.

NCSL recognizes that any effort to reduce our nation's federal deficit requires reductions across all federal agencies. However, reductions should not be made without a thorough review of the overall Army force structure across the active, Guard and Reserve components.

NCSL further urges that any congressional or Department of Defense review of the Army structure, including the role of the ARNG, include appropriate input from state policy makers. NCSL also opposes any effort to preempt domestic control of the ARNG from state authority. Services being provided to our veterans should also include members of the ARNG to help them transition into society and have equal access to job training and other benefits.

Furthermore, NCSL supports equipment return, replacement, and upgrade to address destroyed material left abroad during deployment.

*Expires August 2015*