

**Equipment: Fund National Guard Reserve Equipment Account (NGREA)**

***ROA urges Congress to restore the National Guard Reserve Equipment Account to the FY2012-2014 levels to keep pace with operational support requirements.***

“Properly equipping the RC with compatible, interoperable, and modern equipment is vital to the success of our defense strategy... Future budgets should maintain funding levels that equip our Reserve forces with the most modern equipment and seek to avoid delays in critical modernization activities.” (*The National Guard and Reserve Equipment Report for Fiscal Year 2014*).

The Reserve and National Guard, now being used as an operational asset as well as a strategic reserve, face challenges connected with the replacement of worn-out equipment, equipment expended in combat operations and legacy equipment now irrelevant or obsolete. However, the extent of the requirement is often masked.

Active component acquisitions programs should consider the total force, but fiscal constraints pressurize RC requirements. Furthermore, the increased level of Active-Reserve integration presents an unfortunate unintended consequence. Reserve Chiefs, statutorily required by Congress to communicate the needs of the reserves, find themselves in a position where they are unable to speak frankly and advocate for the RC.

NGREA provides funds to procure and modernize equipment critical to readiness. Continued receipt of NGREA and congressionally added funding will allow the Reserve Components to keep the services modern and compatible.

Funding for RC equipment would reduce shortfalls and ensure units have the equipment necessary for training and mission execution. This would reduce the need to expensively send members away from their station to access the right gear.

**Beginning FY 2016 Reserve Component Equipment Shortages**

<b>Reserve Component</b>	<b>Requirements (\$M)</b>	<b>On-hand (\$M)</b>	<b>Shortage (\$M)</b>	<b>Shortage (% of Req'd \$)</b>
Army National Guard	\$106,269.0	\$82,346.0	\$23,923.0	-22.5%
Army Reserve	\$32,896.5	\$24,023.3	\$8,873.1	-27.0%
Marine Corps Reserve	\$9,667.1	\$7,163.6	\$2,503.5	-25.9%
Navy Reserve	\$7,498.0	\$6,846.6	\$651.4	-8.7%
Air National Guard	\$36,900.0	\$34,359.2	\$2,540.8	-6.9%
Air Force Reserve	\$22,020.3	\$21,749.9	\$270.4	-1.2%
Coast Guard Reserve	\$152.2	\$140.8	\$11.4	-7.5%

Note: Requirements, on-hand, and shortage entries are total equipment value, excluding substitutes.