

April 14, 2017

The Honorable Steve Daines
320 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

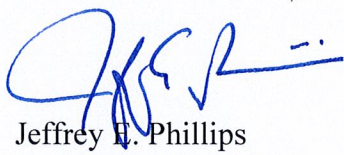
Dear Senator Daines:

ROA supports your bill S.697, "Tax Relief for Guard and Reserve Training Act" which lowers the mileage threshold from 100 to 50 miles when determining tax deductions for Guardsmen and Reservists for any expenses incurred while performing services related to Guard or Reserve duties.

Given recent base closures, Guard and Reserve members have had to drive increasingly farther distances for training and mustering. ROA believes Guard and Reserve members should not have to be paying high out-of-pocket expenses just so they can perform their duty. It discourages retention when soldiers weigh the weekend drill pay against the travel expenses incurred to perform it. Your bill helps ameliorate this costly deterrence and eases the financial burden for Guardsmen and Reservists, especially in rural communities where travel distances can be longer.

ROA has a membership of 50,000 and is the only national military association that exclusively supports all the uniformed reserve components of the United States. Thank you for your efforts on this issue, and your support of our veterans. Please have your staff call Susan Lukas, ROA's legislative director, at 202-646-7713 or e-mail at slukas@roa.org with any question or issue you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey E. Phillips
Maj. Gen., USA (Ret.)
Executive Director

*Thank you for your
leadership, sir!*