
RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

**Military Technician Eligibility for Incentives
Resolution No. 17-01**

WHEREAS, Section 308b, *Special pay: reenlistment bonus for members of the Selected Reserve*, of Title 37, United States Code, allows Secretaries to pay a reenlistment bonus for a military skill, designated by the Secretary concerned, in the Selected Reserve; and

WHEREAS, Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 1205.21, *Reserve Component Incentive Programs Procedures*, limits incentives to reserve component service which is not extended to military technicians; and

WHEREAS, as a matter of DoD policy, if an existing member becomes a military technician and received an incentive for the current service, the only exception for recoupment is if the member has already served at least 6 months of the incentive agreement as a non-technician; and

WHEREAS, the reserve components rely on military technicians to ensure mission readiness and the inability to incentivize their service makes technician retention and recruitment more difficult due to the inequities compared to their drilling Reservist counterparts; and

WHEREAS, military technician (especially pilot and aircraft maintenance) manning levels are a tremendous issue with the Air Reserve Components' aircraft maintenance technician manning being below 80 percent at many locations; and

WHEREAS, unit commanders consistently cite incentive ineligibility as a reason they are unable to hire or retain maintenance professionals to be military technicians; and

WHEREAS, presumably some service members will choose non-technician employment over military technician employment to qualify for incentives limited by DoD policy,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Reserve Officers Association of the United States, chartered by Congress, urge the Department of Defense to change policy so it isn't more restrictive than incentive law or, at a minimum, grant an exception to policy as required by the services to be eligible for incentives.

Adopted by the National Convention, 23 July 2017
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