



# GUARD EQUAL BENEFITS FOR FEDERAL MISSIONS ACT

## Key Provisions

- Treats certain full-time National Guard duty under Title 32 as **national emergency service** when Guard members are federally authorized and directly supporting federal law enforcement operations.
- Applies to missions coordinated with agencies such as ICE, DEA, and ATF, and focused on serious threats like violent crime, drug trafficking, and organized crime.
- Ensures Guard members on these missions qualify for the same federal benefits as those serving during a declared national emergency, including early retirement credit, transitional healthcare, and post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility.

## Background

In September 2025, the Trump administration launched the Memphis Safe Task Force (MSTF), bringing together local, state, and federal law enforcement alongside the Tennessee National Guard to address violent crime.

The effort delivered measurable results. Murders declined by roughly **39 percent**, robberies by nearly **60 percent**, sexual assault by over **43 percent**, and motor vehicle theft by nearly **70 percent**.

Despite these successes and operating under federal direction, National Guard personnel serving on Title 32 orders did not automatically qualify for federal benefits tied to national emergency service. This exposed a gap in current law, where Guardsmen performing high-risk, federally coordinated missions are not treated the same as those activated under a formal national emergency.

In response, President Donald Trump issued a directive to extend these benefits to Guard members supporting the Memphis operation. That action addressed the issue in the short term, but it was limited in scope and did not provide a permanent fix.

The Guard Equal Benefits for Federal Missions Act would codify President Trump's EO and ensures that Guard members supporting federally directed law enforcement missions receive consistent benefits going forward.