

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

August 31, 2005

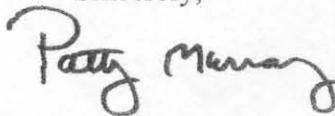
Ms. Donna Warren
Chief, Congressional Inquiries
National Guard Bureau
Office of Legislative Liaison
1411 Jefferson Davis Highway Ste. 9200
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Ms. Warren:

I am writing to request your clarification on a matter regarding the payment of a \$15,000 bonus entitled to members of the Active Guard Reserve (AGR) upon extending their service. Information on the bonus was originally distributed in a memorandum by the National Guard Bureau (NGB) dated January 14, 2005. As described in the memorandum, the bonus was the result of Policy Number 05-02, which defined one of the standards for receiving the bonus by the signing of a six year re-enlistment contract with the AGR. Despite this new policy, there have been instances in which the NGB has denied payments of the bonuses to these re-enlistees while providing them with no explanation for this action. This has caused tremendous uncertainty among those members of the AGR who have been lead to believe that they would be entitled to the bonus. I request an immediate explanation of this situation and urge you to pay the amount due in the most expeditious manner in light of the new policy stated in the memorandum.

I trust that you will recognize the urgency of my request, as many Guard Members are waiting for the bonuses they were promised. Please feel free to contact Evan Schatz in my office at 202-
11 to discuss this matter further. Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to receiving your timely response.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator