# Chapter 751 Legislative Update

Wright-Patterson AFB | Kittyhawk Chapter | October 2025 Edition



#### From the Legislative Trustee

October was a powerful month for advocacy, education, and engagement across Wright-Patterson AFB and the whole Association. Our team advanced legislative awareness, met with federal, state and local leaders, and strengthened our chapter's presence as the voice for the Total Force enlisted corps.

#### Chapter Highlights

AFSA Chapter 751 hosted our **Legislative Awareness Week** activities at the Wright-Patterson AFB USO, featuring Beavercreek Mayor Don Adams, Fairborn Mayor Dan Kirkpatrick, and the Governor's Aerospace & Defense Advisor Joe Zeis. These discussions covered under-21 lodging issues, veteran care, and quality-of-life concerns affecting Ohio's military community.

The Chapter also conducted an in-depth briefing on the **AFSA Legislative Process** and the creation of the **Legislative Platform**, followed by an engaging **Q&A** session covering AFSA's recent accomplishments, current legislative priorities, and ways members can get involved in advocacy efforts.

Chapter 751 also engaged in follow-up coordination with state leaders to maintain communication on lodging and retention challenges during the continuing federal funding lapse. Our chapter's advocacy ensured Ohio's decision-makers remain aware of the enlisted perspective on readiness, family stability, and pay protection.

### m Local / State Legislative Updates

Ohio leaders reaffirmed support for military and veteran initiatives through direct dialogue with AFSA Chapter 751. Discussions with local municipalities focused on strengthening community partnerships that provide services to military families and connecting Guard and Reserve members with city-level veteran resource programs.

At the state level, coordination continued with the Governor's Office of Aerospace and Defense to address base lodging for Airmen under 21 and to highlight the economic importance of Wright-Patterson AFB to the region's workforce. These engagements position Chapter 751 as a trusted liaison between installation leadership and state officials.

### ## Federal Legislative Updates

Federal focus in October centered on the ongoing government funding lapse and pay protection measures. On 15 October 2025, the White House issued **NSPM-8**, authorizing use of existing funds to ensure continued payment for active-duty and Reserve service members despite the shutdown.

→ <u>National Security Presidential Memorandum – NSPM-8 (White House, 15 Oct 2025)</u>

AFSA Headquarters' advocacy also focused on barracks revitalization, TRICARE coverage improvements, and Basic Needs Allowance expansion in the FY26 NDAA. The House Armed Services Committee continued advancing measures to improve Guard and Reserve retirement benefits and family readiness programs.

→ House Armed Services Committee Release – 29 Oct 2025

Additionally, a DoD directive issued 21 October tightened congressional communications through the Office of Legislative Affairs — a move AFSA is monitoring to ensure enlisted advocates retain access to decision-makers.

→ "Pentagon Clamps Down on Military Interactions with Congress," Breaking Defense, 21 Oct 2025

### Around the Association

Across AFSA, members engaged with local, state, and federal officials during **Legislative Awareness Week** events nationwide, amplifying the *Voice of the Enlisted*. Chapters highlighted issues such as TRICARE access, under-21 housing, and mental health resources.

Members from multiple chapters and AFSA Headquarters staff also met on **Capitol Hill** to engage directly with federal representatives, strengthening AFSA's presence and ensuring the enlisted perspective was heard in person at the national level.

Chapter 751's initiative at Wright-Patterson AFB was recognized by HQ AFSA for its innovative approach and cross-community engagement, setting an example for other divisions seeking to connect directly with policymakers and civic leaders.

#### **m** HQ AFSA Legislative Focus

AFSA Headquarters' Legislative Team continued its push on several quality-of-life priorities throughout October:

- **Pay & Benefits:** advocating for competitive military pay raises and BAH adjustments in the FY26 NDAA.
- Medical Care: promoting mental-health access, TRICARE enhancements, and VA coordination for transitioning service members.
- **Education & Quality of Life:** supporting Basic Needs Allowance improvements and funding for barracks revitalization.

HQ AFSA also reaffirmed the 2025-2026 Legislative Platform, focusing on Pay & Benefits, Medical Care, Education, and Quality of Life.

→ AFSA HQ Legislative Updates – October 2025 (Official HQ AFSA Site)

### Policy Tracker - Key Legislation on the Hill

- Protecting Veteran Access to Telemedicine Services Act Codifies telehealth access for veterans in rural or underserved areas. <u>Campaign Link</u>
- CHIP IN for Veterans Act Expands public-private partnerships for modern VA healthcare facilities. <u>Campaign Link</u>
- Major Richard Star Act Provides concurrent receipt for combat-injured retirees. <u>Campaign Link</u>
- Retired Pay Restoration Act Extends full concurrent receipt eligibility to retirees with service-connected disabilities. <u>Campaign Link</u>
- Veterans National Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Act Creates a five-year VA pilot program to treat TBI and PTSD. <u>Campaign Link</u>

## Contact & Stay Connected

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## Summary

October marked a month of strong engagement and visible progress for AFSA Chapter 751. From hosting Legislative Awareness Week and advancing state-level discussions on lodging and quality-of-life issues, to monitoring federal actions impacting pay and benefits, the Chapter continued strengthening its role as the voice of the enlisted corps in Ohio.

As we move into November, Chapter 751 remains committed to collaboration with AFSA Headquarters, state leadership, and our local partners to ensure the concerns of Airmen, Guardians, veterans, and their families are heard at every level of government.

Respectfully,

#### **Anthony Roy**

Legislative Trustee, AFSA Chapter 751