

# **AFA CORE VALUES**

**INTEGRITY FIRST**

**SERVICE BEFORE SELF**

**EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO**



# **AFA MISSION**

The Air Force Association educates the public about the critical role of aerospace power in the defense of our nation; advocates aerospace power and a strong national defense; and supports the United States Air Force and the Air Force family.

The Air Force Association (AFA) is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation. AFA disseminates information through Air Force Magazine, Air Force Magazine Online, public outreach and national conferences and symposia. Learn more about AFA by visiting us on the web at [www.AFA.org](http://www.AFA.org).

**AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION**  
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# **ADVOCATE**

**A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE**



**THE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION  
WORKING FOR YOU**

# LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The Air Force Association is proud of the legislative accomplishments that it helped achieve during the past year. AFA is unique among military membership organizations because we advocate for a broad portfolio of topics, including weapons systems, modernization initiatives, personnel issues, and veterans' benefits. Input for these issues is gathered from a variety of sources, including our AFA members, AFA leaders, the Air Force and AFA Advisory Councils, industry partners, Congressional Testimony, the media, and The Military Coalition.

## Health Care Issues

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- Prevented TRICARE fee increases for FY2008
- Defeated 9.9% cut in 2008 Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors
- Barred pharmacy copay increases for FY2008
- Required DoD and VA to establish plans for PTSD and TBI treatment and prevention
- Established joint electronic health records, seamless transition plan, and single separation physical for disabled service members transitioning between DoD and VA

## Active / Reserve Force Issues

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- 3.5% 2008 pay raise
- Reimburse up to \$300 in drill-travel expenses for short specialties/units or relocated units
- Authorized reservists to use their GI educational benefits for up to 10 years after separation from the services
- Reduce reserve retirement age by 3 months for each 90 days on active duty

## Retirement / Survivor Issues

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- 2.3% retired pay/SBP COLA for 2008
- Social Security offset to SBP eliminated as of April 1, 2008
- Expand CRSC eligibility to disability retirees with less than 20 years of service
- Full concurrent receipt for those rated "unemployable" effective January 2008 / October 2008

## Military Family / Veterans / Other Issues

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- Allow family members of mobilized personnel to use family medical leave
- Bar courts from vacating child custody agreements based on member's deployment
- Authorize veterans the option of saluting the US Flag (vs. hand over heart)

## Weapons Systems Recapitalization

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### Advocated for the following:

- Procure the stated requirement of 381 F-22 Raptors and 1,763 F-35 Lightning IIs
- Continue to acquire C-17 Globemaster IIIs and modernize the C-5 Galaxy fleet
- Replacement of the aging tanker fleet in the most expeditious manner possible
- Recapitalize our Air Force's aging space assets
- Support robust investment in our Air Force's cyberspace capabilities
- Invest in modern equipment for our Air Force Special Operations community
- Support continued modernization of Guard and Reserve assets
- Abolish legislative language that prohibits the Air Force from retiring obsolete aircraft
- Ensure adequate funding for research and development into new capabilities and weapons systems