

## ASSOCIATION OF CIVILIAN TECHNICIANS

**THOMAS G. BASTAS**  
*National President*



July 1, 2008

The Honorable Joe Courtney  
215 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Courtney,

The Association of Civilian Technicians represents approximately 24,000 civilian employees of the Department of Defense. The majority of these employees are dual-status National Guard Technicians employed under 32 U.S.C. § 709. Dual-Status is defined as required membership in the National Guard unit in which they are employed as civilians. Our presence in forty states and two territories constitutes a nationwide majority of these dedicated civil service employees.

On behalf of The Association's members, I wish to personally thank you for presenting a bill that will open an entitlement to Guard Technicians that is long overdue and needed to create equality with other Guard members and Federal workers as a whole. Our members in your state of Connecticut, as well as around the United States appreciate your efforts. In this time of extra effort from the workforce and extended tours of duty, this bill will let all technicians know they are appreciated for the many extra hours and days they give in support of our freedoms.

As July fourth approaches let us remember what our freedoms as Americans mean, as well as recognize the efforts of the original and current "Minute Men" who have given up much over the years to help maintain these freedoms.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Bastas  
National President

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