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August 15, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I write to express my serious concern regarding the recent mobilization of the District of Columbia National Guard for law enforcement support operations, reportedly without the advanced notice necessary to ensure that its members will be promptly compensated for their service. Your Administration has reportedly not yet issued these servicemembers individual orders. Absent such orders, these servicemembers may sacrifice pay in their civilian jobs without being eligible to be compensated by the military in a timely fashion. I ask that you resolve any administrative or budgetary issues that are causing this delay to ensure that the mobilized Guardsmen are paid in a timely manner for their service.

The National Guard occupies a unique position in our national defense and homeland security framework. Guardsmen are routinely asked to leave their families, schools, and civilian jobs to serve in emergency situations and overseas in combat zones. They sacrifice time and compensation from their civilian careers to support their communities during peace and war time. As you know, when the National Guard mobilizes for an extended period of time, as you appear to intend in this case, they receive individual orders ahead of time to justify their absence from their civilian careers and guarantee their benefits. This includes their salaries, housing allowances, and medical coverage.

While I recognize that these Soldiers will be compensated eventually, I am troubled by the prospect of servicemembers not knowing when they will be paid next. Any delay in compensation for their service will place many Guardsmen in financial hardship. Even though servicemembers understand that they will be compensated at some point, they should not have to wonder when exactly their next paycheck will come. If a Guardsman does not know whether he or she will be paid in two weeks or six weeks, the financial stress they may experience could be severe.

Unlike other National Guard units, the D.C. National Guard falls directly under the President's command, and you are ultimately responsible for their safety and sustainment. I respectfully request a response to this letter by Monday, August 18th, 2025, confirming that these Guardsmen will be paid on time. Our National Guard members consistently answer the call to duty without hesitation and without failure. As Commander-in-Chief, you should honor your commitments to those you command.

Thank you for your earnest attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Richard Blumenthal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Blumenthal" clearly legible.

Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senate