



In 1961, four men established an association that has become a beacon for advocating quality of life concerns affecting the Air Force Enlisted Corps. 55 years later, AFSA has championed a variety of topics including issues such as:

- The Montgomery GI Bill, VEAP and the Post 9/11 education benefit
- TRICARE Prime, Standard, Extra, Life, Reserve Select, Retired Reserve, Young Adult
- Concurrent Receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation, as well as elimination of unfair compensation offsets affecting survivors

As we advocate, does our efforts stop at the doors of only the United States Air Force? Definitely not and our advocacy has continued to include the needs of the entire enlisted corps. An increase in pay for Air Force is also an increase for all service members. Tricare for Airmen is Tricare for all. Are we only fighting for the Air Force? Again, no; we advocate for the enlisted members of all the services.

BACKGROUND

The International Executive Council and Headquarters collaborated on a way forward to keep AFSA viable in the shifting non-profit/advocacy landscape. The council approved two major Bylaw changes that will be presented to the membership in August.

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES

- Our Bylaws currently restrict full membership to only the Total Air Force Enlisted Corps (active, retired and/or veterans).
- Our legislative platform consistently represents the entire enlisted corps, yet we don't have the numbers behind it from the other services.
- We want to lead change in this environment.

WHYS

- Why not expand the membership to support this goal – strength in numbers!
- There is not a (viable) all service enlisted advocacy organization in this space. We will be the Voice!
- The non-profit and advocacy landscape is shifting, and we want to get ahead of the change so we are not left behind.

PROS

- Larger membership pool (approaches 2.7M uniformed + large pool of veterans and families).
- Expand our influence with the representation of multiple services

For additional information, please visit the “United in Strength” section on our website: www.hqafsa.org

