

We hope you had a chance to read our latest [Issue Brief](#). A very interesting perspective on the Electoral College presented by Michael C. Maibach who is a supporter of NAFSL. Mr. Maibach is a Distinguished Fellow on American Federalism with Save Our States. He is also a Trustee and Managing Director of the James Wilson Institute, and a Trustee of the Witherspoon Institute, as well as the Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal.

So, what is a State Defense Force?

Most of us have never heard of a [State Defense Force](#) (SDF) even though about half the states have one. Just recently, Florida reactivated theirs (since 1947) which is called the [Florida State Guard](#).

These military organizations, sometimes called “Home Guards”, are authorized by federal law, but created, controlled, and funded by each individual state. Operating under Army protocols, they are solely under the control of the Governor and state adjutant general.

Created to fill in for National Guard units that are deployed, usually overseas, SDFs are prepared to respond to state emergencies and mobilized mainly for disaster recovery missions, which can be very beneficial for states that often face natural calamities. Unlike federal forces, SDFs can be mustered quickly and effectively utilizing the local knowledge possessed by the soldiers, and they integrate well with first responders in the community.

With a median age between 45 and 60 years old, State Defense Force ranks include civilians of all stripes and former members of the military. Trained in emergency management, SDFs are comprised of volunteers who may be compensated for their expenses when called into active duty by the Governor.

These modern state militias, with a history going back to the founding of our nation, are instituted on the tradition of the citizen-soldier, the concept where an individual is trained and prepared to assist a neighbor in need as a matter of civic duty. For former state legislators, an SDF might provide an opportunity to continue serving your state and fulfill your patriotic duty.

Here are two very thorough articles on SDFs:

<https://www.heritage.org/homeland-security/report/the-21st-century-militia-state-defense-forces-and-homeland-security>

<https://www.city-journal.org/html/militia-you%E2%80%99ve-never-heard-14339.html>

New membership dues structure:

For some of our members, we will soon be sending out notices for membership renewals.

We are transitioning our budgeting and accounting systems to a new fiscal year format that establishes an October 1 due date for annual membership renewals.

As we switch over to that cycle, some current membership renewal dues, in order to cover the remainder of this fiscal year, will reflect a lesser prorated amount.

As always, we thank you for your reliable commitment to our efforts, and greatly appreciate your generous support of the National Association of Former State Legislators.

Your input is requested:

Currently, we are in discussions with a firm to set up a digital archiving service for all the important photos and documents that you accumulated during your time as a state legislator.

With “My Legislative Legacy”, your legislative records and accomplishments, of which many could be considered historically significant, are digitally preserved in chronological order for you to hand down to your family and future generations.

Please let us know if this is a service that you might be interested in, or if you have any suggestions. Just send me a quick note at james.kallinger@nafsl.org

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Kallinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "Kallinger" clearly legible.

James Kallinger, President
National Association of Former State Legislators