



DEFENDING THOSE WHO DEFEND AMERICA

Supporting our troops should not be a partisan issue

Sen. Thune has consistently fought to keep our military spending away from partisan disputes and ensured that defense spending keeps pace with the need to restore readiness and modernize for evolving threats. The men and women who defend our nation must have the equipment and training they need and the pay and benefits they deserve.

Sen. Thune's father was a World War II veteran, so he has a unique perspective and commitment to the men and women in uniform who've defended the United States.

Highlights of Sen. Thune's Commitment to Ellsworth AFB

· Benefits for Our Troops:

- Sen. Thune has consistently supported increased pay and housing allowances for our armed forces.
- Making sure the children of military families, especially those serving at Ellsworth Air Force Base, have access to the best education should always be a priority, and Sen. Thune has fought hard to deliver on that commitment. Sen. Thune supports universal licensure portability to reduce barriers to military spouses finding gainful employment with moves to new bases.

· Veterans Benefits:

- As men and women from both the active service and the National Guard returned home from fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as those now retiring from service, Sen. Thune will continue working to ensure they receive all the benefits to which they are entitled.