# U.S. governors unite against Space Force plan to control Air National Guard units



A significant dispute has erupted between a bipartisan coalition of U.S. governors and the United States Space Force leadership over controversial plans to reassign Air National Guard units under Space Force command without securing approval from state governors. Governors Jared Polis of Colorado and Kevin Stitt of Oklahoma—representing opposing political parties—have united in opposition, spotlighting the reckless federal overreach that bypasses long-established state rights and statutory requirements.

The governors rightly highlight legal provisions mandating gubernatorial consent before any National Guard reassignment. This federal initiative brazenly sidesteps constitutional principles protecting state autonomy over their military forces, threatening to erode state control and weaken local responsiveness during emergencies. If this realignment proceeds unchecked by year’s end, it will create dangerous precedents undermining the traditional balance of power and destabilise national defence by politicising military command structures.

This aggressive power grab is set to face inevitable legal challenges from states defending their sovereign authority. The conflict underscores a broader flaw in current federal military restructuring efforts touted by the establishment, which too often prioritise centralisation and bureaucratic control over operational effectiveness and respect for democratic governance.

Meanwhile, the federal government continues pouring vast sums into modernisation projects—such as the FAA’s new cloud-based Notice to Airmen system and a $66 million supply chain security initiative—while conveniently neglecting the constitutional and economic fallout of militarising state Guard units. The Pentagon and State Department are also scaling back diversity initiatives and workforce numbers, signaling a prioritisation of political agendas over pragmatic strategy.

The Space Force’s push to subsume Air National Guard units reflects a flawed mindset focused on consolidating power rather than bolstering real defence capabilities. Proponents claim enhanced efficiency, but the move risks damaging state readiness and economic stability within Guard-dependent communities—consequences largely ignored by federal planners.

This situation exemplifies the growing tension between federal centralisation ambitions and the fundamental necessity of preserving state authority and local accountability. It is a warning sign that aggressive federal reforms, however modern they appear, can unravel the very foundations of effective governance and national security.

As governors prepare to push back legally, it is clear that such unilateral federal overreach is precisely the kind of bureaucratic arrogance vehemently opposed by voices demanding a return to responsible, accountable government. Strengthening national security requires respecting constitutional limits—not trampling on them in the name of expediency.

This unfolding battle serves as a critical reminder: true defence and public safety flourish not under unchecked central command, but through balanced power that honours the vital role of state governments and local communities. The nation must reject ill-conceived federal power grabs masquerading as modernisation and instead champion a robust, principled approach that restores order, accountability, and the rightful autonomy of states in the defence of their people.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2025/04/22/governors-alarmed-looming-transfer-of-air-national-guard-units-space-force.html> - Reports bipartisan opposition from all U.S. governors against transferring Air National Guard units to Space Force without state consent, led by Governors Polis and Stitt.
* <https://www.ngaus.org/newsroom/govs-space-force-pushing-take-ang-space-assets> - Corroborates governors' accusations that Space Force is attempting to absorb Air National Guard space-related assets without proper consultation.
* <https://www.nga.org/news/press-releases/governors-stand-firm-on-preserving-national-guard-authority/> - Confirms governors' assertion that LP 480 violates federal law requiring gubernatorial consent for National Guard reorganizations.
* <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/governors-oppose-guard-units-moving-space-force/> - Documents nearly unanimous opposition (53 governors/territories) to the proposed transfer through a formal letter to Defense Secretary Austin.
* <https://defensecommunities.org/2025/04/governors-protest-moving-air-guard-troops-to-space-force/> - Details the bipartisan nature of the dispute and specific legal objections regarding violations of cooperative federalism principles.
* <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2025/04/22/governors-alarmed-looming-transfer-of-air-national-guard-units-space-force.html#:~:text=The%20governors'%20warning%20that%20the,New%20York%20and%20Ohio> - Identifies the seven states (AK, CA, CO, FL, HI, NY, OH) with Guard units specifically targeted for transfer under the plan.
* <https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMiwAFBVV95cUxOU19wckdncDJ4MjVaOU1yQ05xS1JJMDNtRmhISkhrekJCanc0TUUwNm9OckRaYWduT3gtcUlTeFdWRVVFVm1IeWVneDd4b2tucTZ5VnFHRmhGUGlkUk1CQUNqQ212WllLOEI5a0E0eDBtZmhCbEh3THdONm9YLWdhdkVXeU9hUlVUYXFZbk5vR01aSl8zbmk2a2VDNHpiaWRFVWpCZXp6a3RNRk9DcWZicl9pcWszdUZZZFExRWVjMDY?oc=5&hl=en-US&gl=US&ceid=US:en> - Please view link - unable to able to access data