



# FEDTEX

*Individual and Unit Tactical Gear, Uniforms and Personal Protective Equipment*

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May 19-20, 2026    Raleigh, North Carolina

Hosted By  
US Senator Thom Tillis  
US Senator Ted Budd  
North Carolina Military Business Center



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## **Workforce Resources for Government & Textile Industry**

- Moderator: Erin Ananian-Gentile, Regional Program Manager (New Bern), NC Military Business Center
- Melissa Sharp, Associate Director, Zeis Textiles Extension; Deputy CEO, R&D, The Textile Innovation Engine of North Carolina; Wilson College of Textiles, NC State University
- Robert Finnegan, Head of Education and Workforce, AFFOA
- Jeff Neville, Director, Manufacturing Solutions Center, Catawba Valley Community College
- Jasmine Cox, Executive Director- Textile Technology & Fiber Innovation Centers, Gaston College
- Laura C. Winters, Director, Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility