

DACOWITS RFIs for September 2016

GENDER INTEGRATION	
1	The Committee requests written responses from the Military Services and SOCOM specifying the number of women who have applied, been accepted, are in-progress, have failed, and/or have graduated from the previously closed specialty schools (e.g. Rangers, SEALs, Pararescue, etc.) as of 1 September 2016.
2	The Committee requests a written response from the Marine Corps for clarification following a June 2016 briefing in which the information below was shared: <i>“Overall, 61% of MCRD Parris Island training is conducted with male and female recruits in the same location, at the same time.”</i> Please include concrete examples as clarification for exactly which parts of the curriculum are co-located and which parts are integrated? Additionally, provide examples and descriptions of each.
3	The Committee requests the Marine Corps provide written responses for the items below following the June 2016 briefing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide the status on Gender Integration in the form of a dashboard/scorecard (similar to what the Army provided), to include the status and progress of the over 200 enlisted servicewomen who have trained in the infantry training battalion and passed. Of the 200 enlisted servicewomen who passed, how many are progressing into operational infantry positions? • Provide timeline for Recruit Integration, to include milestones for the 12-18 months CNA study.
4	The Committee requests briefings and written responses from the Army and Marine Corps* to clarify the curriculum standards for both Services’ Infantry Officer Schools. What are the total curriculum standards, to include: academics, physical requirements (e.g., tasks, conditions, and standards), field requirements, and occupational standards? Be prepared to explain combat readiness differences between the two Services’ curricula.
5	The Committee requests written responses from the Military Services and SOCOM annotating any significant barriers to the gender integration progress thus far? Additionally, please provide examples of how the Services have overcome these barriers, annotating any trends that have been identified.
6	The Committee requests briefings from the Military Services and SOCOM* on the methodology behind the development of the new occupational standards and the difference between physical fitness standards and gender neutral occupational standards?
7	The Committee requests written responses from the Force Resiliency Office and the Military Services on strategic communication efforts, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there specific DoD and Service strategic communication plans (internal and/or external) to counter potentially negative stereotypes regarding the abilities of women to serve in all units and positions in the Military Services? If so, please provide copies of these plans if they are publically releasable. • What strategies are in place to mitigate misperceptions (e.g., lowering of standards, implementing quotas, etc.) in the detailing/placement of qualified women into these positions?
COMBAT EQUIPMENT AND GEAR	
8	The Committee requests written responses from the Army and Marine Corps on the development, collaboration, procurement, and issuance of protective equipment and combat gear sized for servicewomen (e.g., Outer Tactical Vest, Protective Insert Sizing, Family of Concealable Body Armor, and the Protective Under Garment).

* Panel Style Format

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CHAPLAIN CORPS	
9	<p>The Committee requests a written response from the Military Personnel Policy (MPP) Office:</p> <p>Who has oversight of the Services Chaplain Corps and who is addressing the issue of lack of progression and extremely limited promotion and no percentage increase of women in the Services' Chaplain Corps (e.g., 5% women in 2006 and 5% women in 2015)?</p>
PREGNANCY AND PARENTHOOD POLICIES	
10	<p>The Committee requests written response updates from the Military Services for the items below, following briefings provided in June 2015. Have there been any recent changes (or will there be changes in the near future) to the pregnancy, postpartum, and parenthood policies/instructions, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breastfeeding and Lactation/Mother's Rooms; • Postpartum Operational Deferment; • Postpartum Fitness Testing; • <u>Army/Air Force/Coast Guard</u>: Efforts to consolidate all pregnancy and parenthood policies into one instruction, per the Committee's 2015 Recommendation; • <u>Navy</u>: Updates to instruction, "<i>Navy Guidelines Concerning Pregnancy and Parenthood</i> (OPNAVINST 6000.1C)" and the date version D will be released; and • <u>Marines</u>: Updates to instruction, "<i>Marine Corps Policy Concerning Pregnancy and Parenthood</i> (MCO 5000.12E)" and the date version F will be released.
11	<p>The Committee requests written responses (via chart) and briefings from the Military Services* on current maternity uniforms and any future prototypes (to include those being wear tested/piloted).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer questions 1-18 utilizing the Maternity Uniforms Chart provided. • Please provide visual examples (e.g., photos) of all current maternity uniforms and future prototypes in briefings that will be provided.
12	<p>The Committee requests written responses from the Military Services on the process for Service members to request convalescent leave.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What medical documentation is required by Service members to provide to their chain of command? • What (if any) annotations are included on the form in the case of a miscarriage, abortion, or stillborn birth? Meaning to what extent is Protected Health Information (PHI) shared with the servicewoman's chain of command (e.g., number of miscarriages/spontaneous abortions, elective abortions, etc.)? • Who in the chain of command reviews and approves convalescent leave requests?
13	<p>The Committee requests a written response from General Counsel of the Department of Defense on permissible/impermissible uses of information about a servicewoman's pregnancy, and whether there is relevant DoD guidance. For example, the Committee noted that the Marine Corps is the only Service branch that annotates pregnancy on a fitness report, when pregnancy is the only temporary medical condition required to be specified.</p>

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TALENT MANAGEMENT	
14	<p>The Committee requests a <u>briefing</u> from the <u>Joint Advertising Market Research & Studies (JAMRS) Office</u> on the country’s recruitable population, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the overall size of the current and projected recruitable population? • What does the population of recruitable enlistees look like? Please break data down by gender. • What are the criteria for a “recruitable population” (include qualifiers and disqualifiers)? • What is the rationale behind this definition and when was it last examined? • Of the recruitable population, how many are single parents? Please break data down by gender.
15	<p>The Committee requests <u>briefings</u> from the <u>Military Services</u>* on the nation’s recruitable population, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What criteria are the Services using to gauge the likelihood for success of potential recruits, to ensure they are prepared to be successful in the long term? • How do you define recruitable (include qualifiers and disqualifiers)? • What is the rationale behind this definition and when was it last examined? • What is waivable, by Service, and why? • How many men as compared to women receive waivers? • How many single parent waivers are approved? Of those, how many are women? • For those Services that allow a waiver for single parents to enter the military, who has decision making authority for the waiver?
16	<p>The Committee requests a <u>written response</u> from the <u>Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (OUSD (P&R))</u> on geographic stability/co-location, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What DoD instruction delineates to the Military Services the Department’s policy on geographic stability/co-location? • What is the rationale behind the Department’s current stabilization policies? • How often are these policies reviewed? • Is DoD considering a policy to address the low retention rates of servicewomen by increasing geographic stability/co-location for dual-military families (e.g., a Force of the Future reform initiative)?
17	<p>The Committee requests a <u>written response</u> from the <u>Military Services</u> as a follow-up from the December 2015 briefings on geographic stability/co-location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has your Service updated the policy or are you planning to update/create a policy?