

2018 DACOWITS' Recommendations

#	Recommendation
1	The Secretary of Defense should conduct a comprehensive assessment of the effectiveness of the Military Services' policies, standards, training, and enforcement to eliminate gender discrimination and sexual harassment.
2	The Secretary of Defense should direct all Military Services to improve their support to active duty women transitioning to the Reserve/Guard or civilian sector by offering programs similar to the Women's Health Transition Pilot Program, a best practice implemented by the Air Force in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs.
3	The Secretary of Defense should direct the Marine Corps to eliminate the pregnancy references found in the Marine Corps' Performance Evaluation System, which currently identifies a female Marine's health status by using the code "PREG" in the weight section.
4	The Secretary of Defense should encourage the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to address the impact of the Veterans Affairs' motto/mission statement, <i>"To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan,"</i> on servicewomen transitioning into their care.
5	The Secretary of Defense should require all Military Services to tailor their marketing to inspire more women to serve by addressing misconceptions, highlighting motivating opportunities, and providing more emphasis on realistic portrayals of women who serve.
6	The Secretary of Defense should require all Military Services, including the Reserve/Guard, to provide servicewomen with gender appropriate and properly fitting personal protective equipment and gear for both training and operational use.
7	The Secretary of Defense should endorse the 2017 DACOWITS' recommendation on gender integration directing the Military Services to share lessons learned and best practices on the progress of their implementation plans and to communicate that progress more effectively with Service members as well as the general public.
8	The Secretary of Defense should consider proposing legislation to allow the Military Services to permit flexible (noncontinuous) use of primary and secondary caregiver leave, if requested by the caregiver.
9	The Secretary of Defense should mandate the consistent application of 21 days of leave for secondary caregivers across all Military Services to be consistent with the maximum allotment afforded in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.