

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman (R-Colorado) visited the White House today for the signing of the Weapon System Acquisition Reform Act by President Barack Obama.

The legislation, which was approved by the House and Senate without a dissenting vote, will reform the system used by the Pentagon to acquire major weapons systems.

Coffman was appointed to the House Panel on Defense Acquisition Reform in March. The purpose of the panel was to examine the acquisition and procurement processes at the Department of Defense to see what reforms were necessary to improve the quality and to contain the cost of weapons systems and military equipment. Coffman was one of seven members appointed to the bipartisan panel, and was a member of the bill's Conference Committee working out differences between the House and Senate.

“As a combat veteran with two tours in Iraq, I realize from personal experience just how critical a well-functioning acquisition system is to our nation’s service members – especially our warfighters in the field,” Coffman said of the legislation. “I was pleased my amendment giving the Combatant Commanders a more defined role and input into the process was included. This legislation now institutes a much-needed level of focus and precision regarding the input sought from Combatant Commanders.”