

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 12, 2014

The Honorable John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310

The Honorable Deborah L. James
Secretary of the Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20330

The Honorable Ray Mabus
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20305

Dear Secretary James, Secretary Mabus, and Secretary McHugh

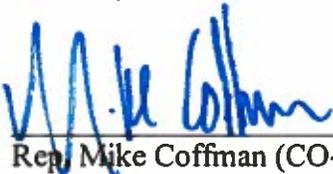
Thank you for the letter dated February 4, 2014, updating us on the progress of the policy review being conducted by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness in coordination with all Military Services. We are pleased that the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security are involved in the review of the relevant statute and policy at issue.

We hoped to receive a substantive response to our inquiry 60 days after our initial letter sent on November 21, 2013. However, we appreciate that the review of the enlistment policy is ongoing and not complete. We remain deeply concerned that the U.S. Military is denying U.S. citizens the opportunity to serve their country due to the legal status of their spouse or child.

A response to our inquiry is imperative and we encourage a timely completion of your review. Please provide our offices with a final report in the next 30 days. If more time is needed to complete the review, please notify us with a detailed response on why more time is needed and with a clear final reply date. If extension beyond 30 days is needed, we request a Member level briefing on the progress of the policy review.

If you have any questions, please contact our staff Evan Armstrong at 202-225-7882 and Alice Lugo at 202-225-8203. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,


Rep. Mike Coffman (CO-06)


Rep. Luis Gutierrez (IL-04)