



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

**1200 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200**

July 8, 2020

HEALTH AFFAIRS

**MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY FOR MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE FOR MANPOWER
AND RESERVE AFFAIRS
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY**

SUBJECT: "DoD Women's Reproductive Health Survey"

This memorandum is in support of Active Duty Service member (ADSM) participation in the RAND Corporation study, "DoD Women's Reproductive Health Survey," sponsored by the Defense Health Agency. The survey of active duty women will be leveraged to assess reproductive health preferences, health behaviors, and health outcomes. Results from the study will be used to improve policy and support services, education, treatment, and counseling to optimize health, well-being, and fitness of our female ADSMs

Women have officially served in the U.S. military since 1901, initially in non-combat support roles. Evolving military requirements resulted in changes to policy, which enabled women to serve in direct ground combat career fields, occupational specialties, and units that were previously closed to women. Consequently, women represent a growing ADSM demographic. As women's roles in the U.S. military continue to expand, it is imperative that the Military Health System continues to collaborate and innovate in support of women's health to enhance worldwide mission readiness.

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HON Thomas McCaffery
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