



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-4000

SEP 25 2014

The Honorable Carl Levin
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides the Department's response to the Independent Review Panel's Initial Report on Military Medical Construction Standards. The Panel is a Federal Advisory Committee established by the Secretary of Defense in accordance with section 2852 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, Public Law 111-383. The Panel is required to provide an initial report on: (a) the unified construction standards' consistency with industry practices and benchmarks; (b) the uniform application of standards in the Department of Defense's (DoD) ongoing construction programs; (c) the DoD's approach to planning and programming facility improvements; (d) whether the Comprehensive Master Plan for the National Capital Region is adequate to fulfill statutory requirements; and (e) recommendations regarding adjustments to the Comprehensive Master Plan.

The Department fully supports the work of the Panel and appreciates the observations in the Initial Report. The Department will continue to respond to information or briefing requests to help facilitate this continuing effort and look forward to receiving the findings and recommendations in the February 2015 Annual Report. The Department expresses its appreciation to Congress for its steadfast interest and support. Our country's wounded warfighters continue to remain the Department's top priority.

A similar letter has been sent to the Chairpersons of the other congressional defense committees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jessica L. Wright".

Jessica L. Wright

cc:
The Honorable James M. Inhofe
Ranking Member



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SEP 25 2014

The Honorable Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Wright".

Jessica L. Wright

cc:

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member



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4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
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SEP 25 2014

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

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Jessica L. Wright

cc:
The Honorable Richard C. Shelby
Vice Chairman



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SEP 25 2014

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Sincerely,



Jessica L. Wright

cc:
The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member