

MICHAEL R. TURNER

3RD DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
STRATEGIC FORCES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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March 29, 2012

Mr. Leon Panetta
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta,

We appreciate your interest stated during the February 15, 2012 House Armed Services Committee (HASC) hearing in protecting child custody rights for our men and women in uniform.

As you know, legislative language addressing this issue has already passed the House of Representatives on six separate occasions. It has passed five times as part of the National Defense Authorization Act, every year from 2008 through 2012. Additionally, in 2008 this language passed the House as a stand-alone bill (HR 6048) by voice vote. Sixty members from both sides of the aisle signed on to HR 6048 as co-sponsors. Most recently, the bill was included in the Managers Package in the FY12 House NDAA and was supported by the Department of Defense (DoD).

Enclosed are letters of support that both Secretary Gates and Secretary Stanley provided for this legislation last year. Also enclosed is the 2010 HASC letter to Secretary Gates. As we move forward with the current legislative session, we look forward to the same level of support from the DoD in addressing this important issue and ensuring that our men and women in uniform have their parental rights protected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael R. Turner".

Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Andrews".

Robert Andrews
Member of Congress

Military Child Custody - Panetta Letter

Susan A Davis
CA-53

Betty Sutton
OH-13

Joelle Sauchy
CA-47

Niki Smyth MA-05 Hank Johnson GA-04

[Signature] NM-01

Tracy Myer OH-17 Chelle Pysz ME
MD-2

Paul Brady PA-1

[Signature] IA-02 C. A. [Signature]

[Signature] HI-01

Lay Kiser NC-08

[Signature] TN-5

Trick McKen CA-25

Joe Cumbrey
CT-02

[Signature] TX-16

Kathy Hochl
NY-26

Austi Scott
GA-08

Rick Larsen

Jim Langew
RI-02

N. Callan
MO-02

Jayang

[Signature]

Military Child Custody - Panetta Letter

Bob [unclear] UT 1

Walter B. Jones 3/NC

John Flory LA 04

John [unclear] VA 04

Mike [unclear] AL

Max [unclear] TX

Gene Franks AZ

CR NY-20

John [unclear] MW-2

R-2 [unclear] TX-11

Doug Lamborn CO-5

Allen West FL-22

Bill Shust PA-9

Mo Brooks AL-5

[unclear] CA-52

James Purney
FL-16

Alicia Hartzler
MO-4

Jeff [unclear] VA-03

Liz Lofgren
NS-2

W. C. Cahn CO-6

Bob Wittman
VA-01

Tim Gowdy
AR-2

[unclear]
MD-6

Tom Wilson
SC-02

Military Child Custody - Panetta Letter

Michelle Fl-01

Sharon Schilling
IL-17

Kirk Dalt
PA-19

Mike McIntyre
NC-7

J. King

Scott Rigell VA-2

Col. Sam WAG

Madeleine J. Boudallo

Steve Rios

Al NY 23

Jodi Spier
