

DEOMI News Highlights

DEOMI News Highlights is a weekly compilation of published items and commentary with a focus on equal opportunity, equal employment opportunity, diversity, culture, and human relations issues. DEOMI News Highlights is also a management tool intended to serve the informational needs of equity professionals and senior DOD officials in the continuing assessment of defense policies, programs, and actions. Further reproduction or redistribution for private use or gain is subject to original copyright restrictions.

Pentagon will hold off on transgender troops ban despite Supreme Court ruling [Corey Dickstein, *Stars and Stripes*, 23 January 2019]

- The Pentagon will not immediately implement President Donald Trump's ban on transgender men and women serving in the military, the Defense Department said Wednesday, one day after the [Supreme Court](#) removed some legal roadblocks that have stalled the controversial policy.
- The Supreme Court's 5-4 decision on Tuesday removed preliminary injunctions that for more than a year halted the Pentagon from implementing the so-called "Mattis Plan," a policy penned by former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis at Trump's direction that would ban most transgender men and women from enlisting in the military. However, one such preliminary [injunction](#) issued by a federal judge overseeing a discrimination lawsuit in Maryland remained in place as of Wednesday, said Air Force Lt. Col. Carla Gleason, a Pentagon spokeswoman.
- Mattis' plan was issued in March 2018 and claimed open service by transgender men and women could undermine the military's combat readiness. It sought to exclude transgender individuals who had undergone a sex transition or were seeking to transition from their biological gender from joining the military. However, it granted exceptions for active-duty servicemembers who had already identified themselves as [transgender](#). Officials said there were about 900 such servicemembers in the military now.

[Pentagon will hold off on transgender troops ban despite Supreme Court ruling](#)

Should women be required to register for the draft? Commission likely to recommend big changes [Gregory Korte, *USA TODAY*, 23 January 2019]

- Three years ago, Congress created a commission to help it answer a pair of questions: Is the Selective Service System, which requires 18-year-old men to register for a potential military draft, working? If so, should it be [expanded](#) to include women?
- The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service will deliver an [interim report](#) Wednesday that hints at the breadth of its charge but gives few clues as to how it's going to resolve the most controversial issues.
- The military said it's committed to an all-volunteer force and doesn't have plans to implement a draft. But expanding the draft to [include women](#) would help by doubling the number of recruiting leads, officials argued, and foster a sense of gender inclusion in the national defense.

[Should women be required to register for the draft? Commission likely to recommend big changes](#)

'Up or out' is on its way out, and it's time for 'perform or out,' Army secretary says [Meghann Myers, *Army Times*, 24 January 2019]

- [Army Secretary Mark Esper](#) is looking to make [talent management](#) his top priority in 2019, he told *Army Times* on Thursday.
- As Army readiness continues on a steady uptick, and the infrastructure for a modernization push is in place with Army Futures Command, the service's top civilian is devoting more attention to a task force stood up specifically to help the Army through an overhaul of its [promotions](#), assignments, and other processes that affect soldiers' careers.
- Over the past several years, the Army has been making overtures about the importance of talent management, of getting the best qualified and highest performing soldiers into the positions that best fit their skills and knowledge, rather than simply moving personnel around to fill openings based on who's up for new orders first.

['Up or out' is on its way out, and it's time for 'perform or out,' Army secretary says](#)

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