



Sen. John McCain,
R-AZ, Chairman of
the Senate Armed
Services Committee

“When less than one percent of Americans are volunteering to join the military, **we should welcome all those who are willing and able to serve our country.**”



Sen. Susan Collins,
R-ME

“If individuals are willing to put on the uniform of our country, be deployed in war zones, and risk their lives for our freedoms, then **we should be expressing our gratitude to them, not trying to kick them out of the military.**”



Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-IL

“When my Black Hawk helicopter was shot down in Iraq, I didn't care if the American troops risking their lives to help save me were gay, straight, transgender or anything else. All that mattered was they didn't leave me behind. **If you are willing to risk your life for our country and you can do the job, you should be able to serve - no matter your gender identity, sexual orientation or race. Anything else is discriminatory and counterproductive to our national security.**”



General Joseph Dunford,
Chairman of the
Joint Chiefs of
Staff

As reported by *Buzzfeed News*, Dunford was “surprised” by Trump's tweets. Said Dunford:

“**When asked, I will state that I was not consulted.**”



Ray Mabus,
Former Secretary
of the Navy

“I cannot recall another instance in United States military history of such a stark and unfounded reversal of policy, **or of any example in our nation's history in which a minority group once permitted to serve has been excluded from the military after its members had been allowed to serve openly and honestly.**”

**Military leaders,
national security
officials, bipartisan
lawmakers in
Congress and a
majority of
Americans oppose
the Trump-Pence
ban on transgender
troops, which
would hurt
military readiness.**

**Tell Donald Trump
and Mike Pence not
to put their politics
ahead of our troops.**

**Call the White House:
202-456-1414
#ProtectTransTroops**



Admiral Mike Mullen, Former
Chairman of the
Joint Chiefs of Staff

“Thousands of transgender Americans are currently serving in uniform and **there is no reason to single out these brave men and women and deny them the medical care that they require.**”



Sen. Orrin Hatch,
R-UT

“I don't think we should be discriminating against anyone. **Transgender people are people, and deserve the best we can do for them.**”



Sen. Richard Shelby, R-AL

“You ought to treat everybody fairly and **give everybody a chance to serve.**”



Eric Fanning,
Former Secretary
of the Army

“The policy announced by the President unnecessarily creates uncertainty and instability for current transgender service members and their commanders. After serving openly and without incident for many months if not much longer, **commanders must now deal with the prospect that key personnel may not be able to continue their service, thus impeding military readiness.**”



Deborah Lee James, Former
Secretary of
the Air Force

“I am not aware of any evidence to support President Trump's stated rationales for reversing the policy permitting open service... **The Working Group did not find that permitting transgender soldiers to serve would impose any significant costs or have a negative impact on military effectiveness or readiness.**”



General Martin Dempsey, Former
Chairman of the Joint
Chiefs of Staff

“The service of men and women who volunteer and who meet our standards of service is a blessing not a burden **#InclusionMakesUsStronger.**”