



Center for Military Readiness



Promoting high standards and sound priorities for our military men and women.

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## President Trump's Transgender Announcement Supports the Troops

### *Next Step: Formally Revoke Obama-Era Transgender Policy Directives*

On Wednesday, July 26, **President Donald Trump** announced that he would *discontinue administrative directives ordering the armed forces to accommodate transgenders in the military*. The following comments may be attributed to **Elaine Donnelly**, President of the *Center for Military Readiness*:

“The **Center for Military Readiness** applauds President Trump for showing decisive leadership in announcing his intent to halt a massive social experiment in the armed forces. This action is necessary because Trump’s predecessor, **Barack Obama**, wrongly ordered the military to assume the risks of retaining and recruiting a cohort of persons who are suffering from **gender dysphoria** – a psychological condition that involves confusion about gender identity.

“**President Donald Trump had every right and responsibility to announce an end to his predecessor’s most extreme imposition of political correctness in our military.**

“The **military health system (MHS)** is designed to be a national security force multiplier. It should not be misused to indulge transgender demands and theories that are contradicted by biological realities, science, and common sense. Expensive life-long hormone treatments and irreversible surgeries associated with gender dysphoria would negatively affect personal deployability and mission readiness, without resolving underlying psychological problems, including high risks of suicide.

“The next step is to formalize what the **Commander-in-Chief** announced yesterday. President Trump or the Secretary of Defense, **James Mattis**, should formally revoke expendable Obama-era administrative directives, which were written in consultation with **LGBT** activist groups and like-minded, always-pro LGBT contractors such as **RAND**.

“To encourage this policy change, the Center for Military Readiness recently released a 27 - page **CMR Special Report**, which identifies and analyzes fifteen Defense Department and

military service directives that former Defense Secretary **Ashton Carter** and other Pentagon officials imposed on our military, starting in 2015:

## [Department of Defense & Military Services Should Revoke Problematic Transgender Policy Directives and Instructions](#)

### [Executive Summary](#)

“These fifteen directives, instructions, and mandatory, time-wasting training programs force the military to retain and recruit persons with a psychological condition that renders them non-deployable for long periods of time. All of them reflect the **pervasive groupthink** and **delusional ideology** that has permeated Pentagon plans for transgenders in our military.

**“President Trump has chosen to stand by troops who were betrayed by the Obama Administration. These include:**

- **Intellectually honest servicemembers** who reject the notion that gender is “assigned” at birth and can be changed, and the irrational belief that regardless of unchanging human DNA, revisions in bureaucratic “gender markers” really can transform a man into a woman or a woman into a man.
- **Pro-defense taxpayers and military leaders** who object to unlimited expenditures for lifetime hormone treatments and sometimes irreversible surgeries. (Transgender advocates demand special status for recruits seeking lifetime medical benefits despite deployability problems. They also demand coverage for veterans in an already overloaded system, and for family dependents, including minor children);
- **Military women** who object to training programs telling them that they must accept infringements on their personal privacy, including unclothed biological males, in facilities and conditions of forced intimacy;
- **Military commanders, doctors, and nurses** who have been ordered to approve, participate in, or perform procedures that violate medical ethics or sincerely-held personal or religious convictions;
- **Thousands of troops** in all branches of the service who are demoralized by orders to accept additional burdens when side effects from transgender treatments and surgeries negatively affect combat deployability and readiness. These personnel will be harmed by DoD directives authorizing months-long absences for “**real life experience**” (RLE), allowing confused persons to try out life as a person of the opposite sex,
- **Traditional American volunteers** who object to the establishment of a network of remote “**Service Central Coordination Cells**” (SCCCs) allowing LGBT consultants to politicize the Military Health System;
- **Subordinates in all ranks** and branches of the service who no longer trust military leaders who endorse medical delusions.; and

- **Veterans** who object to the diversion of scarce VA resources in pursuit of politically-correct social agendas that are not consistent with sound priorities in the military.

“President Trump has re-established vertical cohesion, which is essential for combat readiness. It is important to note that the [Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps](#) initially requested a delay of at least two years to assess costs and consequences of recruiting transgenders into the armed forces.

**“It appears that President Trump listened to these military leaders and took their concerns seriously.**

**“Congressional leaders** who failed to call or ask for hearings on this important issue should not complain about being taken by surprise. They should know that there are a number of psychological conditions that make a person ineligible to serve, such as anorexia nervosa, claustrophobia, sleep-walking, and chronic sea- or air-sickness.

“President Trump’s announcement is consistent with what Defense Secretary James Mattis said at his confirmation hearing: In the making of military personnel policies, mission readiness and combat lethality will be paramount.

“CMR looks forward to supporting the Trump Administration in accomplishing that goal.”

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*The Center for Military Readiness is an independent, non-partisan public policy organization, founded in 1993, which reports on and analyzes military/social issues. To arrange an interview with CMR President Elaine Donnelly, contact [elaine@cmrlink.org](mailto:elaine@cmrlink.org), or call 734/464-9430.*

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