



October 5, 2023

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
The Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority and Minority Leaders:

Political blocks happen all the time, but the military promotion block that is happening now is historic. A block has never gone on this long or affected this many.

Critical positions in every branch of service are vacant. These roles are not figureheads. They bear a huge responsibility for the safety and well-being of our service members and military families. Each day that these senior officers are prevented from fulfilling their roles adds to the risk, stress, and uncertainty for military families. The effects of this holdup are broader than just the nominations themselves -- with each nomination are military families navigating stalled moves, military kids unable to settle into new schools, military spouses unable to look for new jobs, and the next generation of service members are watching.

For months, political gridlock has stalled confirmation of more than 300 senior military officers. This is unacceptable and must end. We call on Senator Tuberville to release his hold and allow nominations to move forward. If he does not, there is a clear path forward. The Senate Majority Leader can and should bring the nominations to the floor for a vote. This has gone on too long. It is time to move forward.

Congress has the responsibility to ensure that our military has everything it needs to protect our national security -- and that includes filling leadership roles. Our country is relying on the military to do its job. It's time for the Senate to let them do it.

The National Military Family Association is the leading nonprofit dedicated to serving the families who stand beside the uniform. Since 1969, NMFA has worked to strengthen and protect millions of families through its advocacy and programs. We provide spouse scholarships, camps for military kids, and retreats for families reconnecting after deployment and for the families of the wounded, ill, or injured. NMFA serves the families of the currently serving, retired, wounded, or fallen members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Commissioned Corps of the USPHS and NOAA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Besa Pinchotti".

Besa Pinchotti
Executive Director & CEO

cc: Senate Armed Services Committee