



## Advocacy group asks Mattis to back military families, fill key DoD jobs fast

Military Times

A leading military advocacy group offered its support to Defense Secretary James Mattis in a public message Monday, but also asked him to help ease some of the hardship caused by the burden of sequestration. "Military families need your commitment to provide the necessary support to promote family readiness," stated the National Military Family Association in their message to Mattis. [READ MORE](#)

## Making our military strong again

The White House

Our men and women in uniform are the greatest fighting force in the world and the guardians of American freedom. That's why the Trump Administration will rebuild our military and do everything it can to make sure our veterans get the care they deserve. President Trump will end the defense sequester and submit a new budget to Congress outlining a plan to rebuild our military. [READ MORE](#)

## Is BRAC back? Sen. McCain revives debate over base closings

Daily Press

Sen. John McCain said he will consider closing military bases to eliminate wasted space, reviving a debate that has huge implications for Hampton Roads. During a hearing Tuesday, the Senate Armed Services Committee chairman said he and ranking Democratic Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., are giving serious thought to something that hasn't been done since 2005. [READ MORE](#)

## Lack of quality school choices are hurting military families. Is open enrollment a solution?

The Virginia-Pilot

The Arlington-based Lexington Institute examined the performance of schools in four states with large concentrations of military personnel: Virginia, North Carolina, Missouri and Colorado. The report found wide disparities in the academic performance of school systems with large numbers of military-connected children, and recommends allowing students to enroll in nearby school divisions. [READ MORE](#)

## TAPS families honor nation's fallen troops at inaugural parade

U.S. Department of Defense

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors sponsored 200 surviving military family members from across the country who marched in the inaugural parade to honor their departed loved ones as well as all the nation's fallen service members. Since its founding, TAPS has assisted more than 60,000 surviving family members, casualty officers and caregivers. TAPS is a vital Save Our Benefit member. [READ MORE](#)