



Veteran, Quality of Life and Health Advocates Net Top Awards

ALA News Release

Citing their work on behalf of Veterans, military family quality of life, and promoting healthy lifestyles, the American Logistics Association (ALA) presented its most prestigious award to Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.), Chairwoman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Mr. Charles E. Milam, Principal Director for Military Community and Family Policy for the Department of Defense at its annual convention in Washington, D.C. "ALA applauds Chairwoman Mikulski and Mr. Milam for all of their years of National Service, particularly for their leadership in improving health and wellness on military bases and for their unwavering support of the vital on-base network of support programs including MWR, commissary and exchange activities that are at the foundation of the military's effort to care for its people," said ALA President Patrick Nixon.

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Joining Forces Yields 65,000 Military Spouse Hires Since 2011

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The second lady of the United States, Dr. Jill Biden, made a surprise appearance at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial to honor the Military Spouse Employment Partnership's expansion and commend companies who have hired more than 65,000 military spouses since Joining Forces launched in 2011. ALA member companies were cited by the White House and Congress during a Capitol Hill ceremony in July of this year for reaching and exceeding a goal of hiring 25,000 Veterans and family members set in October 2011. ALA was one of the first private-sector associations to answer the President's call to hire more than 100,000 veterans.

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Why the Military Has a Budget Message Problem

National Defense

President Obama's fourth secretary of defense soon will be taking the reins at the Pentagon where discontent has been brewing over spending cuts, expanding missions and the growing realization that the generals' stop-the-sequester campaign has been politically ineffective. Defense officials have built the bulk of their case against the sequester on the premise that abrupt and steep cuts threaten military "readiness." The problem is that few people outside the military understand what that means and, therefore, do not take it seriously.

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Veterans and Troops Lament Losing Advocate in Hagel

Defense One

Chuck Hagel arrived in the Pentagon as a soldier's defense secretary, a former Army sergeant and Vietnam vet with the shrapnel still in his chest to prove it. And even if Hagel had problems articulating the White House's elusive strategic goals on a world stage, he was most comfortable talking to the troops for whom he worked quietly to advocate. And now after his resignation Monday, veterans groups and military service organizations said they worry his departure could leave some of their issues in limbo.

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