

STATEMENT BY

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman for having me here this morning. I would also like to thank all the members of the committee for allowing me the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Today, more than 200,000 women are in the active-duty military, including almost 70 generals and admirals. That number comprises approximately 74,000 in the Army, 53,000 in the Navy, 62,000 in the Air Force and 14,000 in the Marine Corps. Women make up about 14.5 percent of the active-duty force of almost 1.4 million.

Among the top ranks, only 7.1 percent of the 976 generals and admirals are women. Broken down this number remains way too small with 28 female generals in the Air Force, 19 in the Army, 21 female admirals in the Navy, and only 1 in the Marine Corps. Among the enlisted ranks, 60 percent of women are still in either the medical or administrative specialties; another 30 percent are in the supply units or part of the communications staff. The numbers are not much different for female officers.

While the move to lift the ban and open combat units in the military to women seemed risky to some, I strongly believe like many others – that it was about time. As former Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta stated, “If members of our military can meet the qualifications for a job, then they should have the right to serve, regardless of creed or color or gender or sexual orientation”.

Women make up over half the population in the United States and slightly less than half of the workforce. The private sector still struggles with the glass ceiling and pay equality is still not realized but we are making great strides. The military must continue to make great strides as well.

I agree with the National Women’s Law Center that the most effective way to combat sexual assaults would be to create an independent, unbiased system of military justice, as provided in the proposed Military Justice Improvement Act. I hope the sexual assault provisions including those dealing with retaliation are fully monitored by this committee and by your senate counterparts.

Mr. Chairman, warfare is changing. We are in a time of fighting on multiple fronts using weapons we could not have even imagined during the Vietnam-era. Most of these weapons require knowledge of cyber warfare, the ability to use missiles and drones to fight from a distance. These and other modern weapons have equalized the potential for women in combat, since wars are less likely to be fought on a hand-to-hand basis.

The fast paced advance of technology is producing changes in the threats we face. How can we keep up? The answer is to be just as innovative with our human resources strategy as we are with our weapons and tactics. Members of this committee know the world is changing, warfare is changing, and our military must change with it or suffer the consequence.

Cybersecurity threats are one of the greatest national security challenges we face today. Our future as a nation depends upon a reliable cyberspace for infrastructure, commerce, communications, and government at every level. It is critical that America has a Cyber Mission Force that can strengthen and rigorously protect this critical infrastructure.

The Department of Defense has adopted new and powerful technologies that make the military more effective and efficient. Despite the power and speed of these technologies we still have some major cyber vulnerabilities. Whether through Internet-based attacks or malicious cyber hardware, we are the primary target of cyber-attacks, jeopardizing or seriously impairing military operations.

We must do more to prevent enemies from using our cyber vulnerabilities against us. We must leverage our strengths in cyber operations for offensive purposes where needed. I believe that we have to provide for the private development of cybersecurity supply chain ratings and accreditation. While the Department of Defense is the most reliable government protector of the cyber supply chain, more work remains to be done. Our business community is ready to accept this challenge.

In Michigan, we are ready to meet the challenge. We have supply chains that feed such large defense contractors as General Dynamics, TACOM and TARDEC. Our connection to the defense industry is a long and well-established one. When the United States needed innovation during World War II, President Roosevelt turned to Michigan.

Michigan is the unrivaled epicenter for R&D activity, testing prototyping and manufacturing for all aspects of connected vehicles and intelligent transportation systems. Michigan has more engineers per capita than any other state. Our numerous R&D centers provide engineering, design and research support for several industries, including defense and manufacturing systems.

We must continue to develop defensive and offensive cyber capabilities at U.S. Cyber Command and within the combatant commands and services. Each part of the military has a need for defensive cyber capabilities, and many also have the need for offensive capabilities. U.S. Cyber Command is critical for ensuring leadership and a centralized command for cyber operations. While Cyber Command set a goal of 133 operational cyber teams by the end of 2016, as of February 2014, only 17 were fully operational. We need to properly support the development, training, and deployment of those teams.

Implementing these policies, together with expanding existing policies, such as cyber information sharing between the public and private sectors, will better prepare the Department of Defense to face serious cybersecurity challenges.

Finally, as you address Cyber Operations Squadrons for Air National Guard, I would like to express my strong support for the 110th Attack Wing of the Michigan Air National Guard in Battle Creek, MI to host a Cyber Squadron.

The Battle Creek Air National Guard Base's unique location and capabilities would enable CYBERCOM to fulfill its mission at a significant cost savings compared to bases without the same existing infrastructure.

Battle Creek Air National Guard Base's existing Cyber missions mean that much of the infrastructure required for this new mission is already in place. Projections show that a Cyber Operations Squadron at Battle Creek would save \$2.2 million compared to a location without the same capabilities. Important and costly equipment such as a dual diverse/redundant infrastructure path, state of the art Defense Information Systems Agency Points of Presence and specialized

facility generator that meets the power requirements will cut down on the lead time to stand up the mission. The base is conveniently located near Fort Custer National Guard Training Center that will be able to offer additional support.

Michigan's current workforce and universities provide a strong foundation for current and future recruiting efforts. Michigan has a network of highly skilled IT professionals, qualified Defense Department personnel, as well as many public and private cyber security specialists. Michigan has twenty-two colleges and universities that offer degrees in cyber security, including five colleges that have earned NSA Centers of Excellence designations.

Cybersecurity is also a gender-neutral occupation. Allowing both men and women to serve our country and protect our nation as equals. I hope we will continue to see this growing area of concern addressed through effective human resourcing and adequate funding for advanced technology.

I am aware of how difficult your job is in these complex times. You serve to address the needs of our military service members, their families and their civilian counterparts at a time when we are facing security issues on multiple fronts. This is an awesome power and as such it comes with a heavy responsibility.

As you consider national security provisions that focus on cyber warfare, I respectfully ask that you consider the great state of Michigan and its ability to support national cyber missions. I ask that you help our military leadership see that this is not a security issue to be handled with brawn, but with brains.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.