Public Hearings
Selective Service
Should Registration Be Expanded to All Americans?
- Arguments for Expansion
April 25, 2019

Program 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Opening Statement and Remarks
Dr. Joe Heck, Chairman and Vice Chair Debra Wada

Panelists Testify

Panelist Q&A
(two rounds of questions directly from Commissioners)

Public Comments
(individuals will have two minutes to relate their comments)

Closing Statement
Dr. Joe Heck, Chairman

Commissioners
- The Honorable Dr. Joseph Heck, Chairman
- The Honorable Mark Gearan, Vice Chair for National and Public Service
- The Honorable Debra Wada, Vice Chair for Military Service
- Mr. Edward Allard III, Commissioner
- Mr. Steve Barney, Commissioner
- The Honorable Dr. Janine Davidson, Commissioner
- The Honorable Avril Haines, Commissioner
- Ms. Jeanette James, Commissioner
- Mr. Alan Khazei, Commissioner
- Mr. Thomas Kilgannon, Commissioner
- Ms. Shawn Skelly, Commissioner

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BIographies

Lieutenant General Flora Darpino, U.S. Army, Retired, Former Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Army

Flora D. Darpino is a retired Army general officer and military lawyer who served as the 39th The Judge Advocate General (TJAG), U.S. Army. General Darpino was appointed as TJAG on September 4, 2013 and served until July 14, 2017, where she was responsible for the Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps, an organization with approximately 10,000 personnel. She was also the senior military legal advisor to both the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army. She is the first woman to be appointed TJAG since the establishment of the Army in 1775. Prior to being selected as the 39th TJAG, General Darpino served as the Commander, The United States Army Legal Services Agency, Fort Belvoir, VA and Chief Judge, United States Army Court of Criminal Appeals. Darpino received a B.A. from Gettysburg College, a J.D. from Rutgers University and has an L.L.M in Military Law from The Judge Advocate General’s School, U.S. Army and served as an Army War College Fellow at the Department of Justice. She is a member of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Bars.

Dr. Jason Dempsey, Senior Advisor at the Columbia University School of Professional Studies and Adjunct Senior Fellow of the Military, Veterans, and Society Program, Center for a New American Security

Jason Dempsey, PhD, spent 22 years as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army, serving in airborne, ranger, air assault, and mechanized infantry units. He deployed both to Iraq and Afghanistan and last served as special assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. In addition to his conventional assignments, he received a doctorate in political science from Columbia University and taught American politics at West Point. He is the author of Our Army: Soldiers, Politics, and American Civil-Military Relations, which was the first book to comprehensively cover the social and political attitudes of active-duty service members of all ranks. He has also written about the Army’s effort at gender integration and the experiences of Hispanics in the military, and helped guide the efforts of the Army’s Commission on Officer Diversity and Advancement. He currently serves as a Senior Advisor to the Center for Veteran Transition and Integration at Columbia University and as an adjunct Senior Fellow with the Center for a New American Security. He is also Chairman of the E Pluribus Unum Foundation, which is working to reinvigorate a national, unifying commitment to the shared obligations of citizenship.

Professor Jill Hasday, Distinguished McKnight University Professor & Centennial Professor in Law, University of Minnesota

Professor Jill Hasday is a Distinguished McKnight University Professor and the Centennial Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota Law School. She teaches and writes in the fields of anti-discrimination law, constitutional law, family law, and legal history. Professor Hasday received her B.A. from Yale University in 1994, graduating summa cum laude with distinction in history and winning election to Phi Beta Kappa. In 1997, Professor Hasday graduated from Yale Law School, where she was an articles editor of the Yale Law Journal and received honors in all graded courses. After law school, Professor Hasday clerked for Judge Patricia M. Wald of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Professor Hasday joined the University of Minnesota Law School as a tenured faculty member in 2005.

Major General Bengt Svensson, Defense Attaché, Embassy of Sweden

Major General Bengt Svensson has served as the Swedish Defense Attaché to the United States since 2015. From 2012-2014, MG Svensson served as Deputy Director of Armed Forces Training & Procurement responsible for recruitment, training and education of all personnel in the Swedish Armed Forces. In 2009-2012, as a Brigadier General, he served as Head of the Army Department and Deputy Chief of Army with the task of leading the country’s transformation from a draft system to an all-volunteer force. From 2005-2006 MG Svensson served as Defense Counselor to the Swedish Ministry of Defense providing information, military context and guidance on defense related issues. He was commissioned in 1982 and served in numerous positions as an Air Defense officer with deployments to UN missions. MG Svensson is a graduate of US Army Command and General Staff College and NATO Defense College, holds a Master of Military Arts and Science and is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.

Ms. Katey Van Dam, U.S. Marine Corps Combat Veteran Currently Working in Venture Capital

Katelyn Van Dam is a Program Manager at In-Q-Tel where she manages a portfolio of cutting-edge technologies that contribute to national security capabilities. A Marine Corps attack helicopter pilot by trade, Katelyn conducted combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan and counter-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden. She served over ten years on active duty before transitioning to the reserves. In her personal capacity, Katelyn co-founded No Exceptions, a nonpartisan initiative that advocated for the military to fully integrate women into all combat arms specialties. The efforts of No Exceptions contributed to the successful implementation of this Department of Defense policy change in 2016. She is a Council on Foreign Relations Term Member, a 2017 White House Fellow, and an alumna of the Center for New American Security’s Next Generation National Security Leaders program. She is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and holds an MA in International Economics and International Relations from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.