

SOS America Essential Elements

Commission Members and Staff: My name is Harold Woods, Senior Director of SOS America (Service over Self). www.sosamerica.org
I am grateful for the opportunity to share a few thoughts with you.

As a retired businessman concerned about the need for continuing renewal of our country, I commend the SOS America initiative to you as part, hopefully, a big part, of the solution you are charged to provide.

General John Borling, our Chairman, has testified before you in Washington, but I take this opportunity to emphasize that the military is the most respected institution in the nation, yet only a small percentage of our young men and women qualify physically and mentally for the All Volunteer Force. We most assuredly need to expand the opportunity for military service.

SOS America advocate an affordable, one year, small unit, military experience. Imagine, mixing geography, backgrounds and ages 18-26 in that unit of young people whose physical and mental requirements would be based on the ability to take care of themselves versus the strenuous requirements for the All Volunteer Force. They would train and serve in platoons of 30, companies of 100, and respond, on demand, to the needs of the services, guard and reserve, federal and state agencies.

Shared values and experiences; the affirming reality that 'They served' - this is their earned benefit and the benefits to our nation. It's all about nation building in America. I commend to your all-- www.sosamerica.org
Service over Self. Thank You