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National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service Announces Locations of Public Meetings for 2018

Commission travelling to 8 locations to gather ideas on inspiring and encouraging service

Washington, D.C. (April 13, 2018) – Today the [National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service](#) announced additional locations it will be visiting in 2018 to gather input, ideas, and recommendations from the American public on ways to encourage and inspire more Americans—particularly young people—to serve their country and strengthen American democracy.

The bipartisan, 11-member Commission was created by Congress to develop recommendations to foster a greater ethos of service among our nation's citizens and review the military selective service process. The Commission hopes to ignite a national conversation about the importance of service as it develops recommendations for Congress, the President, and the American people by March 2020.

The Commission wants to hear from the public about motivations, incentives, barriers, and benefits of service. It will use a variety of methods to gather and assess information and recommendations, including holding public meetings, visiting service sites, talking with young people, and meeting with government, nonprofit, civic and for profit leaders.

The Commission will travel to following cities and states between April and September 2018:

- April 19 – 20, 2018: Denver, CO
- May 9 – 11, 2018: Boston, MA
- May 17 – 18, 2018: Jacksonville, FL
- June 26 – 27, 2018: Iowa City, IA
- June 28 – 29, 2018: Chicago, IL
- July 19 – 20, 2018: Waco, TX
- August 16 – 17, 2018: Memphis, TN
- September 19 – 21, 2018: Los Angeles, CA

The locations visited in 2018 represent the nation's nine U.S. Census regions, and will allow the Commission to engage with a diverse set of Americans across the country. Some visits will include meetings in rural areas and locations beyond the city listed in order to get a range of views.

The bipartisan Commission is chaired by Dr. Joseph Heck, Brigadier General in the U.S. Army Reserve and former Member of Congress from Nevada. Ms. Debra Wada, former Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Mr. Mark Gearan, former Director of the Peace Corps, serve as Vice Chairs. A full list of Commissioners and their biographies can be found [here](#).

“Our nation is at its best when we are striving toward shared goals with a common vision,” said Chairman Heck. “The Commission seeks to ignite a national movement that will lead, ultimately, to every American being inspired and eager to serve. We look forward to hearing from men and women across the country through public meetings and comments submitted to our website.”

After [launching in January](#) 2018, the Commission held its first public meeting in Harrisburg, PA in late February. The next stop for the Commission is Denver, CO, where it will host a public meeting on Thursday, April 19, from 3:00– 5:00 p.m. MST at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. The public is invited join and provide input.

The Commission encourages members of the public to share their ideas through its website www.inspire2serve.gov and a recently published [Federal Register notice](#). The Commission wants to learn why people serve and why people don't; the barriers to participation; whether modifications to the selective service system are needed; ways to increase the number of Americans in service; and more. The public is can join the conversation on Facebook (www.facebook.com/Inspire2ServeUS) and Twitter using [@Inspire2ServeUS](#) and the hashtag #Inspire2Serve.

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The National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service is a Congressionally-established bipartisan Commission created as an independent source to review the military selective service process and consider methods to increase participation in military, national, and public service.