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> > August 2, 2017

Dear Secretary Speer,

UNITED STATES House of Representatives



EDWARD R. ROYCE Thirty-ninth District-California

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS Chairman

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Subcommittees: FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER CREDIT HOUSING AND INSURANCE

Honorable Robert M. Speer Secretary of the Army Army Pentagon Washington D.C. 20310

I am writing on behalf Mrs. Bridget Blehm in regards to her nomination for Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for the Southern California area by Colonel G. Scott Taylor, Commander of the Army Garrison at Fort Irwin. I ask that you consider Mrs. Blehm's strong history of military pride, community service, and initiative as you make your selection for this important role.

Eleven years ago, Mrs. Blehm and her husband founded the non-profit "For Families of Active Military" (FFAM), in order to shine a light on the experiences and difficulties associated with military families and serve as a support group for them. She recently established the FFAM Re-Entry Lodge, a cabin in Lake Arrowhead, CA for service members and their families to use as a means to reconnect after service tours. The active military community of Southern California can depend on Mrs. Blehm to prioritize military service members and their families.

Over the years, I have witnessed many examples of Mrs. Blehm's capacity for public service and community leadership through her extraordinary involvement in the city of Yorba Linda, part of the Congressional District I represent. During the holidays, Mrs. Blehm works with volunteers from a local high school to decorate Fort Irwin and even hosts military service members and their families in her own home. I have seen first-hand Mrs. Blehm's selflessness and philanthropy for military families through donation drives, charity events, and annual Thanksgiving dinners where I have served as a volunteer. Mrs. Blehm is dedicated to serving military families and has a unique ability to mobilize and inspire others to do the same.

I hope you consider Colonel Taylor's nomination of Mrs. Bridget Blehm. Please direct any questions to my district office at (714) 255-0101.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE Member of Congress