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Subject: change to existing law / contracting fire protection

During this last period of this congress, it is urged that the President, congressional representatives and other elected officials to consider following up with the resent alteration to 10 USC 2465 involving "partnership" exemptions for public safety with a section addressing Firefighters / fire & emergency services functions.

I would like to suggested that a section be added or amended to 10 USC 2465 allowing for the "Consolidation of existing civilian fire functions in to the local paid - full time fire agencies within an integrated partnership for basic fire suppression, emergency medical care, rescue and hazardous material operations, where specific and specialized DoD requirements are not required."

This would allow for an improved integrated response to emergencies which occur on and adjacent to various DoD facilities. Further, this has the potential to both improved the level of service to the public and government, as well as reduce the cost to maintain quality fire and rescue services.

Existing text of 10 USC2465

SEC. 1222. PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS FOR PERFORMANCE OF
FIREFIGHTING AND SECURITY FUNCTIONS

(a) FIREFIGHTING PROHIBITION. --- (1) Chapter 159 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§2693. Prohibition on contracts for performance of firefighting functions

"(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), funds appropriated to the Department of Defense may not be obligated or expended for the purpose of entering into a contract for the performance of firefighting functions at any military installation or facility.

"(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) does not apply ---

"(1) to a contract to be carried out at a location outside the United States (including its commonwealths, territories, and possessions) at which members of the armed forces would have to be used for the performance of the function described in subsection (a) at the expense of unit readiness;

"(2) to a contract to be carried out on a Government-owned but privately operated installation; or

"(3) to a contract (or a renewal of a contract) for the performance of a function under contract on September 24, 1983."

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"2693. Prohibition on contracts for performance of firefighting functions."