

IKE SKELTON, MISSOURI, CHAIRMAN
JOHN SPRATT, SOUTH CAROLINA
SOLOMON P. ORTIZ, TEXAS
GENE TAYLOR, MISSISSIPPI
NEIL ABERCROMBIE, HAWAII
MARTY MEEHAN, MASSACHUSETTS
SILVESTRE REYES, TEXAS
VIC SNYDER, ARKANSAS
ADAM SMITH, WASHINGTON
LORETTA SANCHEZ, CALIFORNIA
MIKE McINTYRE, NORTH CAROLINA
ELLEN O. TAUSCHER, CALIFORNIA
ROBERT A. BRADY, PENNSYLVANIA
ROBERT ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
RICK LARSEN, WASHINGTON
JIM COOPER, TENNESSEE
JIM MARSHALL, GEORGIA
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO, GUAM
MARK E. UDALL, COLORADO
DAN BOREN, OKLAHOMA
BRAD ELLSWORTH, INDIANA
NANCY BOYDA, KANSAS
PATRICK J. MURPHY, PENNSYLVANIA
HANK JOHNSON, GEORGIA
CAROL SHEA-PORTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT
DAVID LOEBSACK, IOWA
KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, NEW YORK
JOE SESTAK, PENNSYLVANIA
GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, ARIZONA
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
KENDRICK B. MEEK, FLORIDA
KATHY CASTOR, FLORIDA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-6035

ONE HUNDRED TENTH CONGRESS

DUNCAN HUNTER, CALIFORNIA
JIM SAXTON, NEW JERSEY
JOHN M. McHUGH, NEW YORK
TERRY EVERETT, ALABAMA
ROSCOE G. BARTLETT, MARYLAND
HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, CALIFORNIA
MAC THORNBERRY, TEXAS
WALTER B. JONES, NORTH CAROLINA
ROBIN HAYES, NORTH CAROLINA
KEN CALVERT, CALIFORNIA
JO ANN DAVIS, VIRGINIA
W. TODD AKIN, MISSOURI
J. RANDY FORBES, VIRGINIA
JEFF MILLER, FLORIDA
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
FRANK A. LOBIONDO, NEW JERSEY
TOM COLE, OKLAHOMA
ROB BISHOP, UTAH
MICHAEL TURNER, OHIO
JOHN KLINE, MINNESOTA
CANDICE S. MILLER, MICHIGAN
PHIL GINGREY, GEORGIA
MIKE ROGERS, ALABAMA
TRENT FRANKS, ARIZONA
THELMA DRAKE, VIRGINIA
CATHY McNORRIS RODGERS, WASHINGTON
K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, TEXAS
GEOFF DAVIS, KENTUCKY

ERIN C. COHATON, STAFF DIRECTOR

April 15, 2008

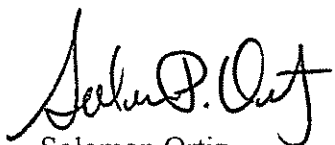
The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

The Fiscal Year 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 110-181) amended section 10502 of title 10, United States Code, to require that the Chief of the National Guard Bureau serve in the grade of general and be the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense, through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on National Guard matters. During testimony before the House Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee earlier this month, the Chief was still in the grade of lieutenant general.

We respectfully request that you provide us with the timeline for when the position of Chief of the National Guard Bureau will be held by an officer in the grade of general in fulfillment of what is now federal law.

Very truly yours,



Solomon Ortiz
Chairman
Readiness Subcommittee



J. Randy Forbes
Ranking Member
Readiness Subcommittee

SPO: mcp