

**MILITARY FAMILIES OF COLOR APPLAUD
SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE NDAA REPORT**

Briefing will pull back the curtain on the reality of the military experience for more than 40% of active duty families.

Washington, DC — Secure Families Initiative (SFI) launched its “Campaign for PCS Safety” in June, a first-of-its-kind movement born out of the work of SFI’s Families of Color Caucuses and today announces a monumental legislative success. The Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) National Defense Authorization Act 2025 (NDAA 25) Report requires a “*Briefing on military reassignment policies under compassionate or humanitarian conditions.*”

Active-duty military families move every 2-3 years, known as a Permanent Change of Station or “PCS.” However, while [47.6% of military personnel are married and 37% have children](#), their identities and composition are rarely taken into account when the military decides where to move a service member. And unfortunately, sometimes a PCS puts families – especially families of color – into hostile locations and with ineffective support services. As a consequence and in extreme circumstances, the military removes a family from a hostile environment via the compassionate reassignment process.

But data on this process has remained at the branch level, and it has never been compiled across the Department of Defense or, more importantly, been made public.

Throughout the year, SFI Families of Color Caucus members met with Congressional decision makers to share their stories and ask for a report on compassionate reassignment data. And the Senate Armed Services Committee listened. The [Report reads](#), in part:

“The committee has heard concerns from military families about the difficulty in securing reassignment under certain circumstances raising compassionate, humanitarian, or safety concerns, where such reassignment is in the best interests of the family.”

“This briefing will, for the first time, pull back the curtain on the realities of military life experience for families of color who make up more than 40% of our community,” said **Brandi Jones, Organizing Director at Secure Families Initiative and Marine Corps spouse.**

“America’s military servicemembers and their families represent the very best of our nation. They are proud to serve, but they often face hardships that other citizens do not. It is quite sensible to explore how reassignment requests can be used to support and improve the lives of military families,” said **Senator Jack Reed (D-RI).**

“Folks often say, “You know what you signed up for” about joining the military. But we did not know this was happening. Multiple military families were moved as a result of extreme racial bullying - and military families of color do not know this is happening,” **Jones** said. “People are going to be shocked when compassionate reassignment data is revealed. It’s shocking because, whether military or civilian, people have a perception that the military uniform shields us from racism and bullying. And it does not.”

“As a military spouse, I know how important it is to have access to information. We try to make the best decisions for our families as we are moved around the world, and that’s impossible if data like this isn’t public. This campaign may have started with families of color, but the outcome will truly benefit every single military family,” said **Ellie Walker, Coast Guard spouse and SFI Caucus member**.

Supporting Materials

[Senate Armed Services Committee NDAA 25 Report](#): *Briefing on military reassignment policies under compassionate or humanitarian conditions.*

[SFI’s Campaign for PCS Safety Website](#) highlights the stories of additional Caucus members.

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About Secure Families Initiative

Our mission is to mobilize diverse military partners, parents, kids, and veterans to vote and advocate for their communities, especially on issues of foreign policy, national security, and democracy. We are a nonpartisan group of proud military spouses and loved ones, united by our love of country and commitment to service. We understand better than anyone the consequences that decisions over war and peace have on the homefront.

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