



JOHN GARAMENDI  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Pete Hegseth  
Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Hegseth,

I am deeply concerned by the recent decision to deploy and divert medical personnel from Travis Air Force Base's David Grant Medical Center to Guantanamo Bay. This mission is not only misguided but also jeopardizes our military readiness, and I urge you to address the questions I have outlined in this letter.

The primary mission of our military medical personnel is to support the health and well-being of our service members and their families. Diverting these medical professionals away from their normal duties and regular patients to Guantanamo Bay could undermine our ability to respond to medical emergencies and maintain the readiness of our forces. This is unacceptable, especially given the current global security threats we face.

Furthermore, the deployment of military medical personnel to Guantanamo Bay raises questions about the appropriate use of our military resources. The migrants detained in Guantanamo Bay undeniably deserve access to comprehensive health services and medical care throughout their detainment. However, it is unacceptable that military resources be diverted to fulfill this need. The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Health Service Corps' is responsible for providing healthcare services to individuals in detention facilities, and this hastily designed plan could prevent migrants detained in Guantanamo Bay from receiving reliable healthcare services. Without a clear strategy, continuing to pull military resources to assist law enforcement agencies indefinitely will decrease our military's readiness, set a dangerous precedent, and misuse our limited resources. Additionally, the large influx of personnel to Guantanamo Bay will continue to stress the existing infrastructure that is currently not postured to handle such an operation.

The deployment of medical personnel from David Grant Medical Center to Guantanamo Bay raises the following questions:

1. What are the assessed impacts on servicemember, dependent, and veteran care at David Grant Medical Center?

2. What are the assessed impacts on existing operations at Guantanamo Bay's detention camp, given the large influx of immigrants, law enforcement, and military personnel?
3. What are the force makeup and career field specialties deployed to Guantanamo Bay to assist in detaining deported migrants?
4. What type of medical care is provided for detained migrants?
5. What is the status of the medical facilities in Guantanamo Bay, and are they sufficient to provide adequate healthcare to detainees?
6. What is the length of the deployment to the Guantanamo Bay detention center?
7. What authority does the Department of Defense use to provide healthcare services to detained migrants, and what are the associated costs?
8. What steps is the Department of Defense taking to coordinate with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Health Service Corps to ensure all detained migrants receive reliable, high-quality healthcare?

The American people deserve better than an underdeveloped and hastily executed plan. The Department of Defense must carefully consider the long-term implications of such decisions and ensure that our military remains fully prepared to meet its primary mission of defending our nation. I urge you to reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions that do not compromise our military readiness.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress