

National Association for Children's Behavioral Health

April 7, 2021

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness U.S. Department of Defense The Pentagon Washington, DC 20301

RE: Information Collection Notice: 2021 Active Duty Spouse Survey

To Whom It May Concern,

The National Association for Children's Behavioral Health would like to make one suggestion related to the information collection notice in the April 1, 2021 Federal Register.

Question 68 of the survey reads: "Did you request assistance from your local Military Legal office related to special education concerns in the past two years?" [Responses: Yes or No.]

Lack of access to needed special education services was a significant issue raised during the February 5, 2020 House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel hearing on the Exceptional Family Member Program. For that reason, and because the survey asks about satisfaction with other benefits and services, we ask that the question be reworded as follows:

"If you requested assistance from your local Military Legal office related to special education concerns in the past two years, how satisfied were you with the assistance you received?" [Consistent with other questions, responses: Very satisfied, Satisfied, Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, Very dissatisfied, Not applicable.]

Thank you very much for your consideration of this suggestion.

Sincerely,

Patricia Johnston

Director of Public Policy

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Advancing the field of children's behavioral health by engaging talented and promising leaders to identify emerging practices of excellence and transform them into effective public policy, while promoting their broad implementation.