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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

February 7, 2025

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(202) 225-2771

The Honorable Pete Hegseth
Secretary
U.S. Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Hegseth,

On January 30, 2025, the Army notified the committee of its intent to exceed the \$35,000 threshold for operation, maintenance, and repair of a currently empty family housing unit, for a total requirement of \$137,297. Of this amount, \$49,900 would be required for an "emergency" paint job. It was not until February 5, 2025 that the committee learned that you would be the occupant of this family housing unit.

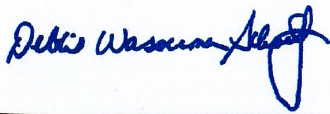
Please respond to the following questions:

1. Why do you require government furnished housing?
2. Why do you require housing specifically at [REDACTED]?
3. Please provide a list of all currently available officer quarters that require less than \$137,297 in upgrades.
4. What is the total monthly rent that you will pay?
5. Please provide a list of past Secretaries of Defense that required government furnished housing including the costs required to improve that housing before occupancy and the annual rent that was paid.
6. The notification states that, "This General Flag Officers Quarters (GFOQ) was inadvertently omitted from the list of GFOQs submitted in the FY2025 President's Budget." If this was a requirement a year ago, why is the painting now considered an emergency that requires a waiver of our 14-day waiting period requirement?
7. Why is \$49,900 for emergency painting of this residence necessary and how does that use of funds comply with the Administration's stated goal of government efficiency?

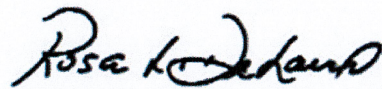
8. We know that many servicemembers and their families currently live in unacceptable housing conditions including houses with mold, lead paint, and other hazards. What commitment will you make to provide servicemembers with a similarly high quality of housing for themselves and their families?

We look forward to your prompt response by February 21, 2025.

Sincerely,



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Military Construction and Veterans
Affairs



Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on
Appropriations