

prejudice, there was much more that we needed to do. Tackling this issue wasn't solely about doing the right thing for our service members; it was also the right thing to do for the security of our nation. Ensuring diversity and inclusion was a readiness issue. We needed to recruit the best Americans to serve—regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, or gender. Similarly, a soldier, sailor, airman, guardian, or Marine who feels included, respected, and valued will work harder, stay longer, and fight better.

My discussion that day