



Senate Excoriates Military Housing Managers

Heads of five private companies that manage military housing, along with Defense Department leaders responsible for their oversight, face the wrath of a joint hearing of the Senate Armed Services subcommittees on personnel & readiness and management support over the DOD's privately managed military housing program.

The hearing resulted from hundreds of military families begging for relief from horrors of on-base housing, including mold, lead, rodent infestation, bad wiring and plumbing.

The situation prompted Army Secretary Mark Esper to publicly apologize to thousands of military families living in substandard housing.

The DOD in 1996 was authorized to turn over all of its military housing to private development firms for rehabilitation, new construction, and management under contract with the government.

Now, nearly all military housing is managed by private firms and a recent poll found that nearly 56% of 14,558 qualified residents polled had negative and very negative experiences with military housing, a far cry from DOD reports to Congress that claim up to 85% satisfaction with housing.

The housing firms assured the joint panel they are taking steps to remedy the complaints.

2/22/19 1:14 PM