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U.S. House of Representatives

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ROBERT S. RANGEL, STAFF DIRECTOR

April 23, 2004

William J. Haynes II  
General Counsel  
Department of Defense  
Room 3E980 Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301

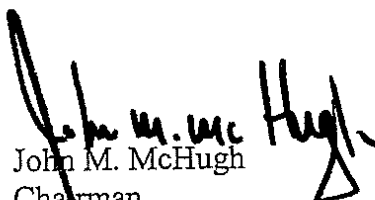
Dear Mr. Haynes:

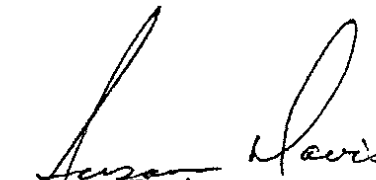
The House Armed Services Committee received the enclosed letter dated March 19, 2004 from Mr. Norbert Basil MacLean III who is requesting the committee seek an amendment to Title 28, United States Code. According to Mr. MacLean, the proposed amendment would allow service members the right to appeal to the United States Supreme Court in certain instances. Mr. MacLean suggests that the current law as written does not allow a service member the right to appeal to the United States Supreme Court if the service member loses a case in the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and if the service member is not granted relief.

We understand that the House Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction for Title 28, United States Code. However, as part of the coordination process we would appreciate your evaluation of Mr. MacLean's request to determine the merit of the proposed amendment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

  
John M. McHugh  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Total Force

  
Susan Davis  
Member of Congress

JMM: lwh  
Enclosure