

Phone Script for DDESS Schools

Office phone numbers for members of Congress can be found at www.senate.gov or www.house.gov. When calling, ask to speak to the staff member who handles military or education issues for your member of Congress. Do not expect to speak directly with your Senator or Congressman. Be sure to personalize your message in the places indicated below.

Staff Member: Hello.

Caller: May I speak with the staff member who handles education or military issues for Senator/Representative (*name*).

Staff Member: I can take your call.

Caller: Hello, my name is (*your name*) and I am a parent/teacher/staff member at (*school name*) on (*base name*). I am calling to urge *Senator/Representative (name)* to voice *his/her* support for Department of Defense schools on military bases, such as ours.

Our Department of Defense schools provide an outstanding education to the children of military personnel on a number of bases in the U.S. A recent congressional report included recommendations to transfer control of many of these schools to the public school systems in nearby communities. Doing so would destroy an excellent school system that is highly-valued by military parents. It would also place enormous burdens on the states and localities that would take over responsibility for educating military dependents. The GAO conducted its own study and found similar concerns with the possibility of transferring control of these schools, especially at a time when tens of thousands of military personnel and their families may soon be redeployed Stateside from overseas locations, placing even more stress on local schools.

Please tell *Senator/Representative (name)* to voice support for DoD schools and make sure this outstanding school system remains intact.

Thank you.

If the person you speak with is looking for more background information, here are some resources.

The Congressional Study including the recommendations to transfer can be found at www.dodea.edu/ddess/

The GAO report criticizing the above study is GAO-05-469. The staffer will be able to look up the report on the GAO Web site or by requesting it from GAO.

If the person asks for information you do not have or cannot answer, tell them you will get back to them. Contact FEA at fea@feaonline.org and we will get you the information you need. If you haven't done so already, check our website at www.feaonline.org, the information may already be posted there.