# OPPORTUNITY COSTS FOR SERVICE

**Modern Military Families Deserve** 21st Century Innovative Solutions



## OPTEMPO REMAINS TOO HIGH

"I feel the current OPTEMPO exerts an unacceptable level of stress"



# TIME AWAY FROM FAMILY IS TOP CONCERN

46%

identify time away from family as a result of military service as top concern

experienced 6+ months of separation in the last 18 months

**Top Reason** for leaving the military among those who plan to exit service in next 2 years:\*

#### CONCERNS ABOUT IMPACT OF MILITARY SERVICE ON FAMILY

\*other than military retirement

#### **IMPACT OF SERVICE ON** MILITARY CHILDREN

**OF SERVICE MEMBERS** CITE "IMPACT OF **DEPLOYMENT ON** CHILDREN" AS A TOP CONCERN

56%

FEEL DOD DOES NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPPORT TO HELP CHILDREN COPE WITH **UNIQUE MILITARY LIFE CHALLENGES** 

## FINANCIAL SACRIFICES **TO SERVE**



of employed military spouses earned less than \$20K in 2016



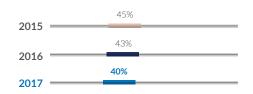
have less than \$5K in available savings



spouse employment challenges are top obstacle to financial security

would leave service earlier than planned if changes or cuts to benefits and services continue

Willingness to recommend service to one's own child continues to decline for 3rd consecutive year



### RECOMMENDING **SERVICE**



Willingness to recommend service to a young person other than one's own child dropped by 11 percentage points, a 17% decrease from last year

