

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4478

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0705

DISTRICT OFFICE
114 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 208
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
860-223-8412

December 17, 2009

Elizabeth King
Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Legislative Affairs
United States Department of Defense
1300 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Ms. King,

I am writing to express my concern about an issue brought to me by an employee of the Connecticut Department of Labor.

Veterans' Employment Representatives at the Connecticut Department of Labor have heard from multiple veterans that they have been instructed that they are not eligible for unemployment benefits upon discharge. The Connecticut Department of Labor is working to educate these veterans of their rights, but they have asked me to contact the Department of Defense to ensure that accurate information is provided at the time of separation.

I respectfully request that the briefings provided at discharge be reviewed to make certain that servicemen and women are provided with accurate information about their eligibility for unemployment benefits.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your prompt reply. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Stephanie Podewell in my office at (860) 223-8412 or stephanie.podewell@mail.house.gov.

Ever best wish,


Christopher S. Murphy

Encl.

OSD 00205-10



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

**COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM**

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4476

CONNECTICUT OFFICE
114 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 206
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
860-223-8412

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0705

January 26, 2012

Elizabeth King
Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301-1300

Dear Assistant Secretary King:

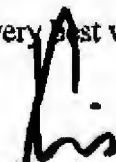
I am writing on behalf of (b)(6) (SSN (b)(6)).

(b)(6) has requested that I ask the Department of the Defense, Office of the Inspector General investigate what he believes are incidents of disregard of regulations by several officers and civilian employees of the Army.

I respectfully request that (b)(6) inquiry be forwarded to the Office of the Inspector General for their review. Enclosed you will find an authorization form signed by (b)(6) (b)(6), a list of his accusations, and a letter he sent to my office and Senator Blumenthal's office.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Stephanie Podewell from my office at (860) 223-8412 or stephanie.podewell@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Every best wish,


Christopher S. Murphy

OSD 01026-12



Office of Congressman Christopher S. Murphy
Information Release Form

Under the Privacy Act of 1974, your signature is required for Congressman Murphy to contact federal agencies and private institutions on your behalf. Please complete and sign this form before returning it to Congressman Murphy's office.

Name (b)(6)

Address (b)(6)

City and Zip Code: Plainville, CT 06062-2544

Daytime (b)(6) Home (circle one) Fax: ()

Evening (b)(6) Home (circle one) Cell (b)(6)

E-mail: (b)(6)

Social Security Number (b)(6) Date of Birth (b)(6)

Identification or Case Number: _____

Federal agency you need help with: US Army

Nature of issue: See next page.

I authorize the Office of Congressman Christopher S. Murphy to address the matter described above on my behalf and to receive any relevant information the Congressman and his staff may need in their efforts to provide assistance to me:

(b)(6)
Signature

3 Aug 2011
Date

Please print and mail to:
Congressman Chris S. Murphy
114 West Main Street, Suite 206
New Britain, CT 06051

Dear Mr. Senator,

I am writing you in reference of some issues, which take place in the US Army Reserve Command. I have joined this organization, when I had enrolled in its chaplaincy program last year. During my short membership, I encountered numerous incidents of defiance of regulations, negligence and deceit among its full-time members: juniors and seniors alike. Here are some examples of them: commanders ignore personnel misconduct, chaplains exercise command authorities, enlisted men mind officer's business, civilians derelict their duties and none of them use proper communication channels. All my attempts to draw its leadership's attention to these issues have fallen on deaf ears. Instead, its top leader, Lieutenant General Stultz, followed his subordinates' suit, which shows the root causes of this problem. I would like to ask that you, as a current member of the Senate Committee on the Armed Forces, inquire into this issues with Department of Defense Office of Inspector General and provide me with their responses. In the attachment, I provided the list of those individuals and laws that they violated.

Respectfully,

(b)(6)



Title/Rank	Last /First name	Unlawful separation	False Statement	Dereliction	Conspiracy	Privacy Policy AR 340-21	Command Policy AR 600-20	Officer Discharge AR 135-175	Chaplains' Activities AR 165-1
(b)(6)		X	X	X			X	X	
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
						X			
					X			X	
					X			X	
					X		X		
					X		X		
							X		
					X		X		
					X		X		
							X		

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 11, 2009

The Honorable Donald C. Winter
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Secretary Winter:

We write to express our concern regarding the significant cost overruns associated with the VH-71 Presidential Helicopter Replacement Program. As you know, the Department of Defense announced that the total acquisition cost is projected to increase from \$6.5 billion to \$11.2 billion, raising the cost per helicopter by 50 percent above the original estimate. We respectfully request detailed information on this recent Nunn-McCurdy breach, including various options to modify or re-open the contract for bidding, as mandated in the FY2009 National Defense Authorization Act (P.L. 110-417).

We are very supportive of the Defense Department's initiative to ensure that programs are held accountable to their projected budgets and timelines. Secretary Gates specifically mentioned the VH-71 as a "big ticket" item experiencing contract or program performance problems. Likewise, President Obama noted that the program's cost represents, "a lot of money, even for Washington," and promised to "take a close look at it," identifying this program as emblematic "of some of the systematic problems we have in Pentagon procurement."

As you know, Lockheed Martin was awarded the contract without any experience building helicopters, winning the contract over the incumbent contractor, Sikorsky. Sikorsky has manufactured Marine One since President Eisenhower first utilized helicopters for presidential transport in the 1950s. The company fulfilled these contracts without exceeding the projected budget or failing to meet required timelines and milestones. Sikorsky is a tested and proven prime contractor for the Marine One fleet. In addition, Sikorsky maintains the most stringent security requirements for its Marine One aircraft and facilities, with minimal reliance on foreign components and designs.

We therefore respectfully request a thorough report, coupled with a briefing, on the development plans for this program, including an analysis of the potential advantages of either re-opening the contract for bidding or requiring split-production between Lockheed Martin and the incumbent contractor. We believe that such an analysis of alternatives will present a clear option for the Department of Defense to eventually develop Marine One aircraft on time and on budget.

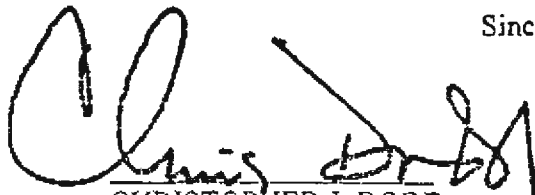
OSD 01615-09



We thank you in advance for keeping us apprised of the Navy's decision-making process and look forward to receiving a detailed report, as well as a briefing on the matter, as soon as possible. Like you, we believe that there are few more sensitive and more important national security concerns than the safe transport of our nation's chief executive. When the President travels on this aircraft, it becomes a critical information node, with vital data coming in, and the most important decisions being meted out. We hope that you will provide us with a workable plan for delivering the highest quality aircraft with the highest security standards. Our President and our nation deserve no less.

If you have any questions regarding this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact us or our staff: Lindsay George of Senator Dodd's office at (202) 224-1730 or Dan Zeitlin of Representative DeLauro's office at (202) 225-3661. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

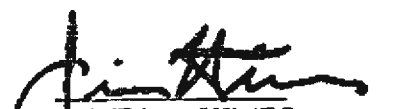

CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
United States Senator


ROSA L. DeLAURO
United States Representative


JOHN B. LARSON
United States Representative


JOE COURTNEY
United States Representative


CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
United States Representative


JAMES A. HIMES
United States Representative

Cc: The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense

The Honorable John Young
Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics

Mr. Sean J. Stackley
Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development & Acquisition

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 8, 2008

The Honorable Robert M. Gates,
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon, Room 3E880
Washington D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Gates:

We write to express our concern over recent issues with regard to the VH-71 presidential helicopter program and urge you to re-compete the contract. In short, the program seems to be seriously over budget, significantly delayed and still the wrong choice to be flying the U.S. President.

It is our understanding that the VH-71 program cost has increased by over fifty percent from \$6.1 billion to nearly \$11 billion. Costs for increment II alone have been reported to have increased from \$1 to \$2 billion. Such increases strain congressional patience with the whole Department of Defense acquisition process, let alone this specific program. We would like to know how any program's initial cost estimate can increase so much after only two years.

We suspect that the answer to the above question is linked to the nearly 2,000 requirements changes to the program since the original competition resulting in a current platform that no longer resembles the original contract award. The modifications being made to extend the length of the tail section, in addition to those being done to the rotor, will create an aircraft that in no way resembles what was originally bid. Moreover, if these requirements were included in the initial competition, there is no doubt that other companies would have modified their proposals making them potentially more attractive than the current winner. Finally, the winning team has promised to assemble most of these aircraft in the United States – a promise we believe they will not keep.

Accordingly, it has become sufficiently evident that the Department of Defense made a mistake in choosing a foreign helicopter to fly the U.S. president and the time has come to correct it. We must keep confidence in this program, which last year saw a \$500 million cut in funding. Now is the time to re-compete this "new" platform and find a winner who can deliver it on-time and on-budget, and do so with American workers.

OSD 01881-08



2/11/2008 7:29:40 AM

Sincerely,

Rosa L. DeLauro

ROSA L. DELAURO
Member of Congress

Donald Manzullo

DONALD MANZULLO
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan

TIM RYAN
Member of Congress

John Conyers

JOHN CONYERS
Member of Congress

Bob Filner

BOB FILNER
Member of Congress

Edolphus Towns

EDOLPHUS TOWNS
Member of Congress

John B. Larson

JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress

Christopher Shays

CHRISTOPHER SHAYS
Member of Congress

Jerry Costello

JERRY COSTELLO
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney

JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress

Christopher Murphy

CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Member of Congress

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20541
202-225-4470

DISTRICT OFFICE:
114 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 206
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
860-223-8412

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0705

February 3, 2011

The Honorable Robert M Gates
Secretary
U.S. Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Re: DARPA BAA 10-83 and Wraith Technologies, LLC

Dear Secretary Gates,

I am writing in strong support of the application submitted by Wraith Technologies, LLC for funding for a catalytic control system capable of converting atmospheric carbon dioxide into liquid fuels.

Wraith's proposal has implications to U.S. interests both at home and abroad. The prospect of on-site production promises to improve fuel logistics in terms of both cost and remote site availability. Domestically, this technology has the potential to yield positive results economically and environmentally. The implementation of Wraith's catalytic system technology will result in creation of several engineering and manufacturing jobs in Connecticut. Furthermore, the technology presents the opportunity to help wean the country off our dependence on foreign oil and to improve our environmental health by reducing greenhouse gases.

As a result, I respectfully request that Wraith's application for funding be given full and fair consideration. I would greatly appreciate if you would keep my office informed of any developments related to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my District Director Robert Michalik at (860) 223-8412.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Every best wish,


Christopher S. Murphy

OSD 01892-11



747031

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 08, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to express our deep concern over the "Declaration of Principles for a Long-Term Relationship of Cooperation and Friendship Between the Republic of Iraq and the United States of America" that you and Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki signed on November 26, 2007. Specifically, we seek to understand the parameters of the document and the reported provisions you are seeking to include in the final agreement. We believe an agreement of such immense importance to the long-term interests of the United States deserves close consultation with Congress.

Most disconcerting to us are the security-related obligations laid out in the Declaration of Principles, including a commitment to support "the Republic of Iraq in defending its democratic system against internal and external threats," to provide "security assurances and commitments to the Republic of Iraq to deter foreign aggression," to support Iraq "in its efforts to combat all terrorist groups" including "Saddamists, and all other outlaw groups regardless of affiliation," and to support Iraq in "training, equipping, and arming the Iraqi Security Forces." Foremost amongst our concerns is that such terms will commit U.S. forces to combat any internal armed faction or external enemy that is deemed a threat by the al-Maliki government regardless of whether such action is clearly in our national interest.

We note that Secretary of Defense Robert Gates asserted in Congressional testimony this week that the agreement "will not contain a commitment to defend Iraq," yet we remain concerned that such a commitment is nevertheless included in a written document signed by two heads of state. We are left to question whether his comments indicate that you will renounce the parameters laid out in the Declaration of Principles. Regardless, we believe it is clear that any agreement with Iraq would likely authorize our forces to engage in combat. Currently U.S. forces in combat are operating under a U.N. mandate. Should that mandate end as proposed in the Declaration of Principles, we believe such authority should be approved by legislatures in both Iraq and the United States.

Such assurances and commitments could also very well in our view necessitate the continued deployment of a substantial number of troops in Iraq, a policy that directly conflicts with the wishes of a majority of both the Senate and House of Representatives and, more importantly, the wishes of the majority of Americans. In addition, such an agreement could lead to permanent bases in Iraq despite bipartisan legislation that you signed into law restricting funding for any permanent U.S. installation in Iraq.

While Secretary Gates also testified that your Administration will not "seek permanent bases in Iraq," that commitment is contradicted by an earlier statement from your Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Iraq and Afghanistan, Lieutenant General Douglas E. Lute who called permanent bases "a key item for negotiation." Moreover, Secretary Gates' comment is further contradicted by the signing statement you issued along with the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act in which you declared that you have the power to bypass a provision in the bill barring the establishment of "any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq."

Along with these provisions in the Declaration of Principles, recent media reports point to how your Administration is seeking to guarantee civilian contractors specific legal protections from Iraqi law. We question the wisdom of pursuing such negotiations when such an agreement to date has protected Blackwater employees who killed 17 Iraqi civilians on September 16, 2007 causing substantial damage to America's image, and when in no other country are American military contractors granted such protection from domestic law.


Unfortunately, these and other questions pertaining to the proposed long-term agreement with Iraq have not been answered because, to our knowledge, your Administration has refused to consult with the Congress. General Lute stated at the outset that he does not "anticipate now that these negotiations will lead to the status of a formal treaty which would then bring us to formal negotiations or formal inputs from the Congress." Moreover, your Administration declined four separate invitations, including one to General Lute, to participate in a joint hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight and the Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia on January 23, 2008, as well as additional invitations to a subsequent hearing today.

This refusal to engage with Congress contradicts the Department of State's "Circular 175" regulations, which implement U.S. laws on the handling of international agreements. These regulations require that the relevant Committees be "advised of the intention to negotiate significant new international agreements, consulted concerning such agreements, and kept informed of developments affecting them, especially whether any legislation is considered necessary or desirable for the implementation of the new treaty or agreement." While you are now offering to provide closed door briefings to Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, we believe this offer falls well short of the "openness and transparency" in the negotiations promised by Secretary Gates in his Congressional testimony this week.


Furthermore, we are deeply troubled by your decision not to provide a full and detailed supplemental war funding request with the fiscal year 2009 annual budget. As you know, under the fiscal year 2007 defense authorization (PL 109-364), you are required to include a war cost estimate in the budget, a law that you did comply with last year. In light of the fact that you and Prime Minister al-Maliki are proposing to enact this pact beginning in fiscal year 2009, we believe this decision only further leaves the Congress and the American people in the dark with regard to this agreement.


Secretary Gates has discussed a "long and enduring presence" in Iraq of which the "Korea model" and the "security relationship that we have with Japan" are examples. Both of these relationships were established after consultations with Congress and after two-thirds of the Senate had given its advice and consent to ratification of a treaty. While we agree that it is in our national interest to map out our future relationship with Iraq, in light of the long-term repercussions the agreement you are currently negotiating will have on the United States, we strongly urge you to enter serious consultations with and seek the approval of Congress rather than unilaterally locking in commitments that constrain your successor's ability to forge a new direction in Iraq.

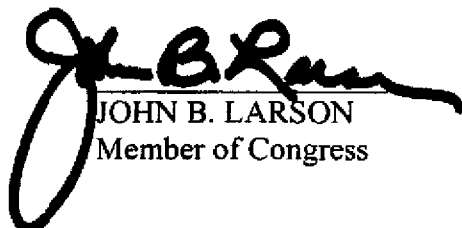
Sincerely,

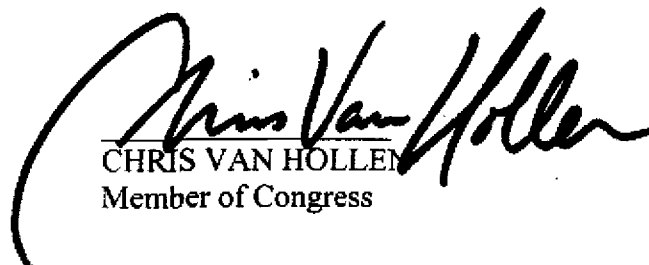

ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress


BILL DELAHUNT
Member of Congress


RAHM EMANUEL
Member of Congress


GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress


JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress


CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress



MICHAEL CAPUANO
Member of Congress



ROBERT WEXLER
Member of Congress



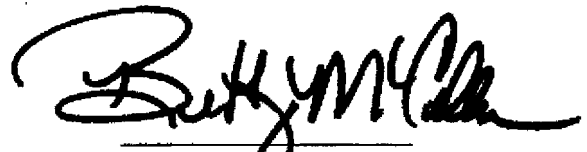
ADAM SMITH
Member of Congress



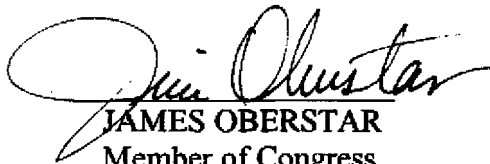
MAURICE HINCHEY
Member of Congress



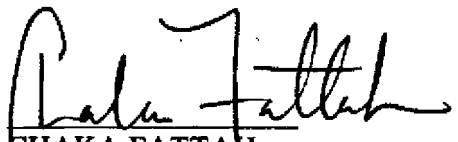
TAMMY BALDWIN
Member of Congress



BETTY MCCOLLUM
Member of Congress



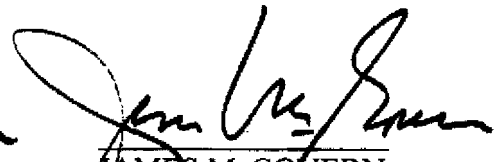
JAMES OBERSTAR
Member of Congress



CHAKA FATTAH
Member of Congress



EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress



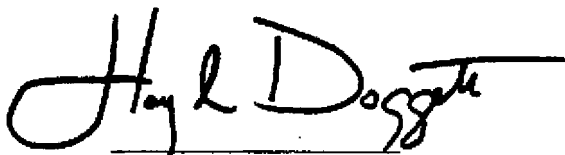
JAMES MCGOVERN
Member of Congress



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress



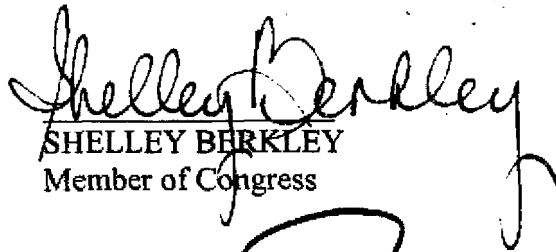
RAUL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress

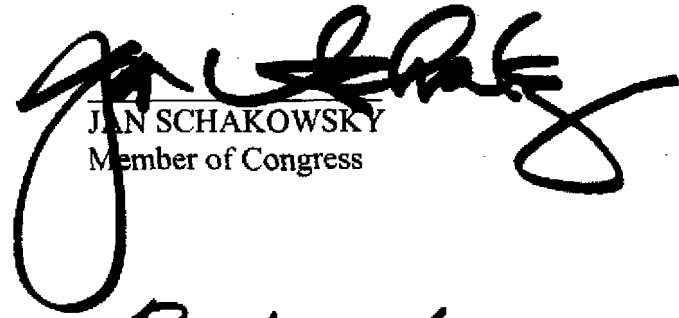


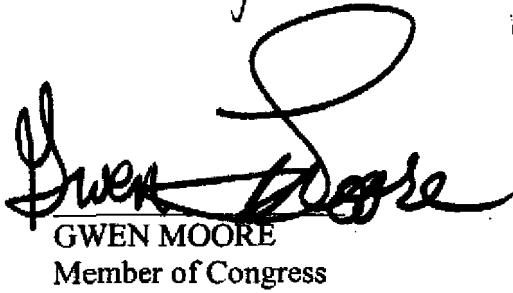
LLOYD DOGGETT
Member of Congress



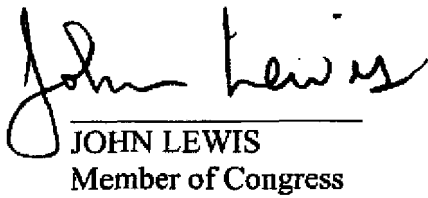
MAZIE HIRONO
Member of Congress

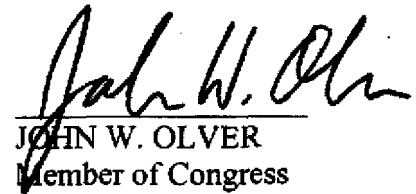

SHELLEY BERKLEY
Member of Congress

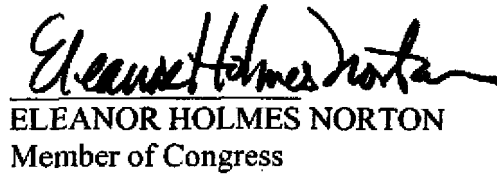

JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress


GWEN MOORE
Member of Congress


BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress

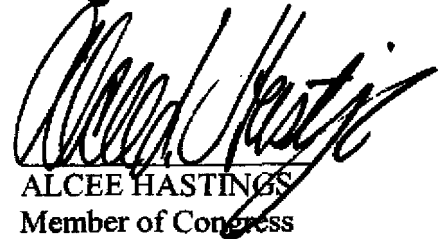

JOHN LEWIS
Member of Congress



JOHN W. OLVER
Member of Congress


ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress

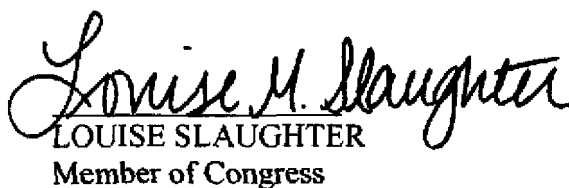

GABRIELLE GIFFORDS
Member of Congress


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress



ALCEE HASTINGS
Member of Congress


JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress


JIM McDERMOTT
Member of Congress


LOUISE SLAUGHTER
Member of Congress

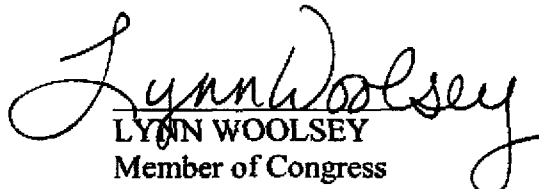

CAROL SHEA-PORTER
Member of Congress

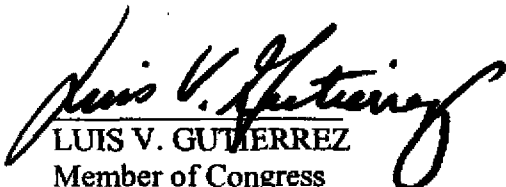

LINDA T. SANCHEZ
Member of Congress

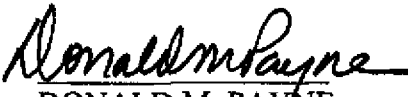

SHEILA JACKSON LEE
Member of Congress


EDWARD J. MARKEY
Member of Congress


MICHAEL HONDA
Member of Congress


LYNN WOOLSEY
Member of Congress

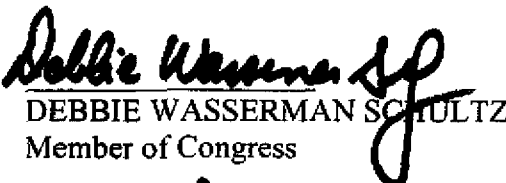

LUIS V. GUTERRES
Member of Congress


DONALD M. PAYNE
Member of Congress

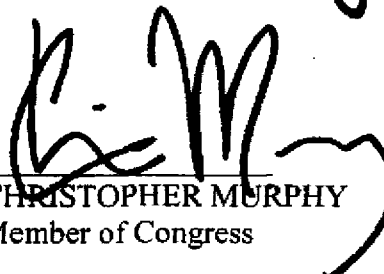

ELLEN TAUSCHER
Member of Congress


STEVE ROTHMAN
Member of Congress



DORIS O. MATSUI
Member of Congress

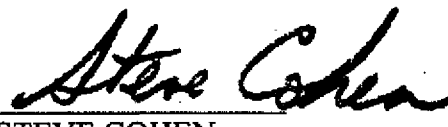

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Member of Congress


TIM BISHOP
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Member of Congress


JOHN CONYERS
Member of Congress


BARNEY FRANK
Member of Congress


STEVE COHEN
Member of Congress


LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress


DENNIS J. KUCINICH
Member of Congress


PHIL HARE
Member of Congress


PAUL HODES
Member of Congress


KENDRICK MEEK
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
The Honorable Robert Gates
Lieutenant General Douglas E. Lute

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 6, 2012

The Honorable Leon Panetta
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Room 3E880
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta,

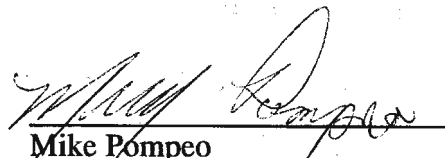
On December 22, 2011, the United States Air Force (USAF) awarded a \$355 million contract to Sierra Nevada/Embraer for Light Air Support (LAS) aircraft to be used by the Afghan National Army Air Force. This award represents the first USAF purchase made under the LAS contract's \$950 million ceiling. Prior to the award, the USAF controversially excluded Hawker Beechcraft (HBC) from competition, creating what amounts to a sole-source contract for the Brazilian-based jet manufacturer, Embraer. We respectfully request the Department to provide Congress with a thorough explanation as to why the USAF excluded Hawker Beechcraft from the competition.

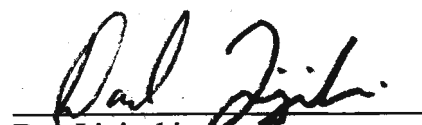
Up until the time the USAF excluded HBC, LAS was a closely fought contest between the Hawker Beechcraft Corporation's AT-6B and Embraer's Super Tucano. The U.S. taxpayers have already invested billions of dollars into the U.S. Air Force and Navy T-6 trainer fleets built and maintained by HBC. This investment has allowed Hawker to make a competitive LAS bid that leverages and maximizes the existing logistics, support, and pilot training investment already made by the United States Government. HBC is a trusted supplier to the U.S. military and a valued part of many local communities.

Mr. Secretary, we believe it is important that the Air Force be abundantly transparent and forthright given that it has excluded an American company from a significant competition. We hope you recognize the importance of this situation.

Thank you for your personal attention to this matter.


Sincerely,

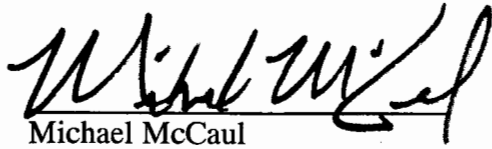

Mike Pompeo
Member of Congress

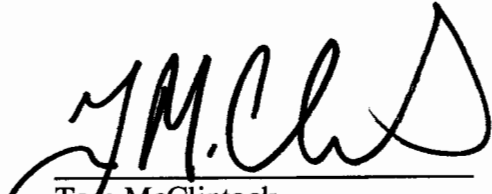

Dan Lipinski
Member of Congress

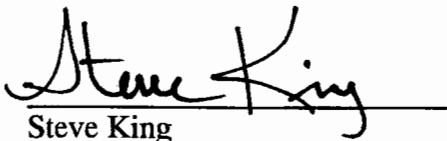


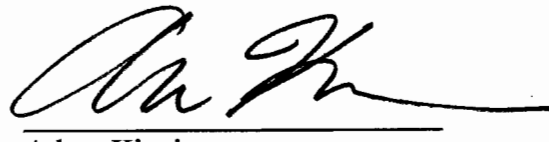

Glenn "GT" Thompson (PA)
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland
Member of Congress


Michael McCaul
Member of Congress

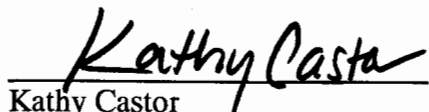

Tom McClintock
Member of Congress

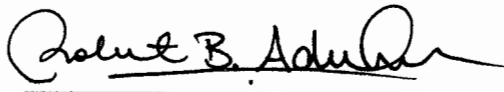

Steve King
Member of Congress


Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress

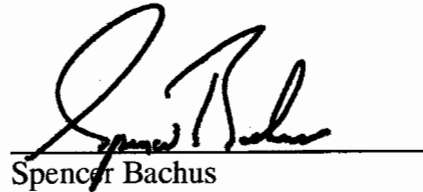

Ann Marie Buerkle
Member of Congress


Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

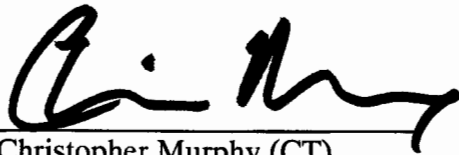

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



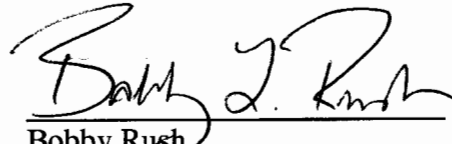
Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress



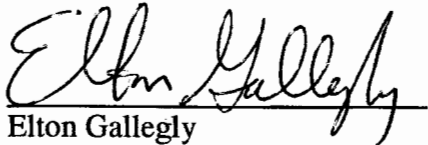
Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress



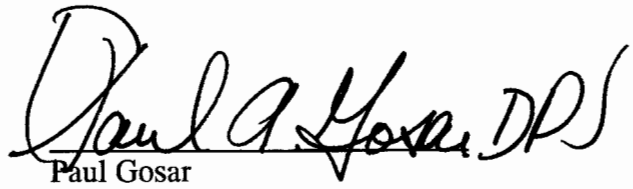
Christopher Murphy (CT)
Member of Congress



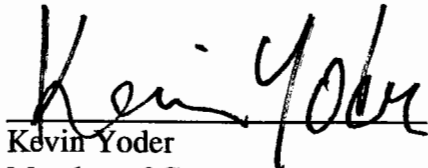
Bobby Rush
Member of Congress



Elton Gallegly
Member of Congress



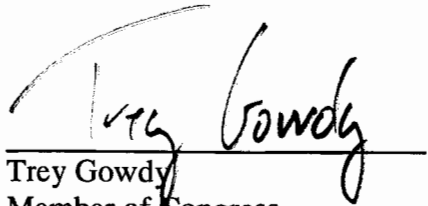
Paul Gosar
Member of Congress



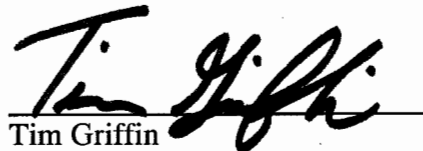
Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress



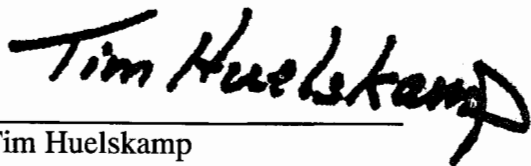
Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



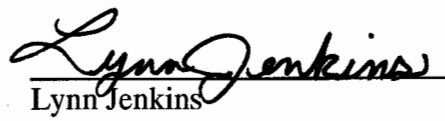
Trey Gowdy
Member of Congress



Tim Griffin
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins
Member of Congress

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4476

DISTRICT OFFICE:
114 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 206
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
860-223-8412

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0705

February 27, 2012

Elizabeth King
Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301-1300

Dear Assistant Secretary King:

I am writing on behalf of (b)(6) (SSN (b)(6)) of Plainville,
Connecticut.

(b)(6) has requested that I ask the Department of the Defense if any action was
taken regarding his suggestion related to fuel efficiency for DoD vehicles. According to (b)(6)
(b)(6) the recommendation was submitted to the Department of the Army in April 2011 prior to
his discharge.

I respectfully request that (b)(6) suggestion be reviewed to determine if it would
be beneficial to the Department of Defense. Enclosed please find an authorization form signed
by (b)(6) as well as a copy of his original memorandum about this issue.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Stephanie Podewell from my
office at (860) 223-8412 or stephanie.podewell@mail.house.gov. Thank you for your time and
attention to this matter.

Every best wish,


Christopher S. Murphy



OSD002516-12

Office of Congressman Christopher S. Murphy
Information Release Form

Under the Privacy Act of 1974, your signature is required for Congressman Murphy to contact federal agencies and private institutions on your behalf. Please complete and sign this form before returning it to Congressman Murphy's office.

Name: (b)(6)

Address: (b)(6)

City and Zip Code: Plainville, CT 06062-2544

Daytime: (b)(6) (circle one) Fax: ()

Evening: (b)(6) (circle one) Cell: (b)(6)

E-mail: (b)(6)

Social Security Number: (b)(6) Date of Birth: (b)(6)

Identification or Case Number: _____

Federal agency you need help with: US Army

Nature of issue: See next page

I authorize the Office of Congressman Christopher S. Murphy to address the matter described above on my behalf and to receive any relevant information the Congressman and his staff may need in their efforts to provide assistance to me:

(b)(6)
Signature

3 Aug 2011
Date

Please print and mail to:
Congressman Chris S. Murphy
114 West Main Street, Suite 206
New Britain, CT 06051

Fuel economy suggestion

Subject: Recommendation on Including an Anti-Idling Section to the US Army Command Policy.

Purpose: Preservation of Natural Resources and Government Funds.

Reference: US Army Regulation 5-17.

Author: (b)(6)

Date: 4 April 2011.

I. Outline. From the very first days, when I set my feet in this country, I had noticed the unusual way the Americans use natural resources. One of the things that caught my particular attention was the way they use a gasoline. In Uzbekistan, the country of my origin, people appreciate even the worst type of gasoline that they can get hold of. Usually, gasoline providers in Uzbekistan illegally mix gasoline with other forms of petrol in order to increase their profits. Cab drivers in rural areas, where fuel and other natural resources are hard to find, purchase that "dirty" gasoline from private individuals in bottles. A cab driver would normally keep those bottles in the trunk of his car until he finds a customer or group of customers, who would be willing to reimburse him the cost of the gasoline upfront and only then he would pour that bottle into his gas tank. Once the customer or a group of customers are delivered to their destination, they would then finalize their payment with the driver. In the country, where summers last for five months and daily temperature reach 120 degrees Fahrenheit, drivers still refrain from using air-conditioners due to their adverse impact on fuel efficiency. The concept of voluntarily idling vehicles is something unheard of in that part of the world. What I saw in the states was quite astonishing for my unaccustomed eyes: a driver leaving his car in the parking lot with an engine running and AC turned on, while he shopped at the grocery store; a police officer filling out some papers inside a running car with its windows rolled down for almost an hour. I also observed soldiers routinely idled government vehicles for extended periods of time during weekly vehicle inspections, as well as daily missions.

Problem. Causing voluntarily idling of government vehicles is a wasteful manner that should not be tolerated. I can not stand by and watch the tax payers money being carelessly wasted by soldiers at the time when US Government is under a threat of a shutdown because of a lack of funding for its services. As a former enlisted soldier, I know that most junior service members, who are usually the drivers of military vehicles, will do everything they can get away with, unless their conduct violates policies that can be enforced. In order to effectively stop soldiers wasting government fuel, I suggest introducing a new punitive section to the Army Command Policy.

II. Recommendation. The following is the body of the proposed section that needs to be added to AR 600-20:

4-24. Misuse of government fuel

Members of the Army are provided Government vehicles to facilitate official transportation. Individual accountability for the management of the government fuel is vital for the continued success of the government budget and efficiency of government services to the American people. No operator of a government vehicle will cause or permit vehicles to idle for more than five minutes in any sixty minute period except as noted below.

a. Definition. Misuse of a Government fuel includes any improper or wasteful use of Government vehicles, including any use of Government vehicles for personal comfort. Improper use of the government fuel is defined as idling government vehicles for more than five minutes in any sixty minute period, except for emergency purposes.

b. Scope. Government fuel will be used to operate government transportation in order to move its personnel or cargo from one location to another. Idling vehicles creates excessive wear of engines and waste of fuel, which results in the loss of millions of tax-payer dollars annually.

c. Command responsibilities. Enforcement of this policy is a responsibility of commanders at all levels. Commanders will ensure that all soldiers, who are issued tactical and non-tactical driver's licenses are counseled on the appropriate use of the fuel. The best way to curtail misuse of fuel is to prevent it through raising fuel economy awareness, dispelling misconceptions about engine capabilities,

Fuel economy suggestion

applying proper fuel saving techniques and leadership by example. Commanders will further monitor the use of the Government fuel to detect abuse and take appropriate corrective or disciplinary action.

d. Command options. This paragraph is punitive with regards to soldiers. Violators of this policy will be prosecuted under Article 92, UCMJ (Failure to obey a lawful general order or regulation) and Article 108, UCMJ (Military property of the United States-sale, loss, damage, destruction or wrongful disposition). Commanders should seek the advice and counsel of their legal advisor when taking actions pursuant to this paragraph.

e. Exemptions: Provisions of this section do not apply for the period where:

1. A vehicle idles when operating on-board electronics, heaters, air conditioners, or other equipment necessary to accomplish a mission, prevent malfunction or safety hazard and not for the convenience of the vehicle operator or occupants.
2. A police, fire, ambulance, public safety or any other vehicle being used in an emergency capacity, idles while in the state of emergency and not for the convenience of the vehicle operator or occupants.
3. A vehicle idles when it's used as a cover from dangers of a combat.

III. Calculation of a direct benefit from proposed changes. According to the Defense News#the Army has around 154,000 Humvee's in its fleet. According to US Environmental Protection Agency# a typical truck wastes around one gallon of fuel during one hour of idling and incurs additional \$2000 in maintenance fees annually. Assuming that all Humvees are operational and each is used at least once a week, voluntarily idles for one hour a week, when it consumes one gallon of diesel, which costs \$4.00, we can calculate the average annual savings from elimination of that unnecessary idling for the whole fleet of Humvees: $154,000 \times 4 \times 52 = \32 million. This figure represents only a minimum amount of expected savings for this particular type of vehicles. If we consider the number of all government vehicles in the Army (tactical and non-tactical), their average use, an increased price of fuel in some overseas locations and additional maintenance fees, the estimated benefit will increase exponentially.

IV. Conclusion. The new provision to the regulation will cause the Army leaders to raise fuel economy awareness, dispel misconceptions about engine capabilities and teach proper fuel saving techniques to junior soldiers. It will also empower commanders to take appropriate actions against those service members who choose to violate the policy. The proposed changes will help reduce unnecessary pollution and soldiers' exposure to hazardous environment as well. The Army and other Military Services are the biggest recipients of federal funds, therefore they should be striving to provide more efficient services to the American people. My recommendation will not cost the Army anything and can be implemented immediately.

Definitions:

Humvee- (derived from HMMWV)- is a term used to identify a High Mobility Multipurpose wheeled vehicle that is largely used by US and other military forces
 UCMJ - is an abbreviation for the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2012

The Honorable Leon E. Panetta
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta:

Thank you for your leadership of the Department of Defense (DoD) during these difficult times. We are proud to support DoD installations that employ military, civilian, and contractor personnel who make invaluable contributions towards ensuring our national security.

We understand that the defense budget must be adjusted to take into account geopolitical changes and budgetary realities. However, under your predecessor, the "Efficiency Initiative" had a disproportionately adverse impact on civilian personnel. Under this plan, the size of the civilian workforce would be cut back to FY 2010 levels, while no comparable constraints were imposed on the contractor workforce.

The unique constraints that DoD has placed on the civilian workforce have raised concerns that managers could be prevented from using civilian employees even when they cost less or the work is sufficiently sensitive or important that it should be performed by civilian employees. Surely, we can all agree that DoD's sourcing decisions should be made on the basis of the law, cost, policy, and risk, and that it makes no sense to prevent DoD managers from using civilian employees simply because they are civilian employees.

That is why we strongly urge you to ensure that DoD complies with all sourcing and workforce management laws, both those that are longstanding as well as those that were included in the FY 2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Public Law 112-81. Specifically, we recommend:


1. **Eliminate the arbitrary cap on the civilian workforce.** If there is work to be done and funding to pay for that work, managers should not be arbitrarily prevented from using civilian employees (10 USC 129). Commercial functions should be shifted back and forth on the basis of costs (10 USC 129a). The FY 2010 cap on the civilian workforce should be lifted so that sourcing decisions can be based on the merits, rather than arbitrary constraints. We urge you to provide the Defense Human Resources Board with the support and leadership necessary to eliminate the cap.
2. **Embrace Total Force Management.** Instead of managing civilian personnel by arbitrary constraints, we urge the Department to embrace the new Total Force Management authorities provided in the FY12 NDAA to ensure that the Department looks at its military, civilian, and contractor workforces more holistically.




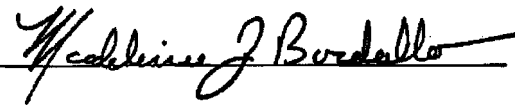
3. **Cap spending on service contracts.** Until the cap on the civilian workforce is lifted, we strongly urge the Department, particularly the Comptroller's office, to comply with the FY 2012 NDAA that caps spending on service contracts at FY 2010 levels. If the Department insists on capping the civilian workforce at FY 2010 levels, a similar cap should be applied to the service contract spending levels.
4. **Conduct cost comparisons when making outsourcing decisions.** DoD cannot convert a function last performed by civilian employees to contractor performance without conducting a formal cost comparison (10 USC 2461). We are pleased that the Department issued guidance in December in order to enhance compliance with this prohibition. We urge you to place a high priority on implementing these reforms.
5. **Implement inventory of contract services.** We appreciate that DoD has come to an agreement on implementing an inventory of contract services. We urge the Department to be aggressive in overcoming any procedural concerns related to the Paperwork Reduction Act and that the inventory be implemented in such a way that it allows for the identification and control of costs, including identifying and preventing over-execution of spending, as well as distinguishing base spending from Overseas Contingency Operations spending. Finally, we urge the Department to respect the conclusion reached by conferees to the FY 2012 NDAA that "the appropriate use of public-private competition is predicated on a sound planning process and the availability of accurate information, including the information that would be supplied by a compliant inventory."
6. **Prohibit outsourcing of inherently governmental work.** We urge the Department to comply with the FY 2012 NDAA that no inherently governmental work be privatized and that reliance on contractors for the performance of work closely associated with inherently governmental functions should be incrementally reduced. Finally, we urge the Department to adhere to the insourcing laws that were reaffirmed in the FY 2012 NDAA and make insourcing decisions on the basis of the usual criteria of the law, cost, policy, and risk, instead of arbitrary targets or constraints.


Thank you for your consideration of our views. As the Department ensures our nation's security, while adjusting to budgetary realities, it is imperative that we value and appreciate the remarkable work done by our civilian personnel. The best way we can do that is by ensuring that the Department is fully compliant with sourcing and workforce management laws.

Sincerely,









Phil Van Hellen

Bob Carlin

Dan Zick

Bruce Braly

Doug C. Bettes

Betty Sutton

Ernie Lee

Frank Johnson

Ti Gr

Mazie K. Hirose

Peter Welch

Alyson J. Schmitt

Michael McHonda

Betty M. Ellison

Michael W. Muesel

Tiki Tomgo

Raul M. Hijabwa

Juan A. Davis

Dave Luback

John C. Carney

Michael E. Caputo

Ron Kind

Chris Pridemore

Jordan Perry

Jim Sanger

W. H. Lin

Jodi Sp

John Hammond

Frank Pallant

Jason Altman

Kent Schwader

Jim McIn

Mike Dingle

Samuel D. Bishop Jr

Bob Filice

Quelbeckman

Flick Larsen

Bob A. Brady

Joe Courtney

~~_____~~

~~_____~~ Lewis

Donna F. Edwards

~~_____~~

Bill Owen

Paul D. Condo

Elly Kallij

John Milroy

Wm. Jay Clay

Edward Shaw

Joe Bana

Art M. Lee

Bill Bassell of

George B. Nulty

Anna DeLette

John Russell

Corine Brown

Eugene Brannin

John DeLette
Melvin L. Watt

Hubert Fash

Stan Hall

Charles B. Rangel

Alfred Hastings

Steph S. Lyman

John F. Tamm

Jay M. Noy

L. M. G.

Walter R. Keating

Paul Miller

W. B. Smith

Edith C. Hall

Lucille Koford Allard

T. Hild

Wm. Hild

Bennie J. Thompson

Steve Isaac

Carlson

Dennis J. Kessink

Rosa L. DeLaur

Eliot L. Engel

Bob J. Ruch

Shawhan

Tommy

Liz Capps

James Hahn

Louise M. Slaughter

Brian Hays

C.A. Dutch. Pupperberger

J.P. Sh

Sammy Baldwin

Shirley Jackson

Ken O. Weyman

Robert E. And

Ely E. Canning

Joe E. Stewart

George Miller

Billy Boff

Louella Sanchez

Art Deitch

Samuel X. Gussell

Yvette D. Clarke

Steve Cohen

Larry Kincaid

Cher Pea

Nita McIntyre

Elaine H. Hunt

Daryl L. Ackerman

Danny K. Davis

Rush Holt

Sam Farr

M S A

Keith Zin

Jim Mc Dermott

Marcia L. Dodge

Judy Allen

Harold Cohen

Pats Hays

Oak E. Wilson

Nancy Kaptur

Art R.

Grace S. Napolitano

Elizabeth Meeks

Joseph [unclear]
David Price

Edward J. Mackey

Lynn Woolsey
Gary [unclear]

Signed by the following 131 Members of Congress:

Gary Ackerman (NY-05)
Jason Altmire (PA-04)
Robert Andrews (NJ-01)
Joe Baca (CA-43)
Tammy Baldwin (WI-02)
Xavier Becerra (CA-31)
Sanford Bishop (GA-02)
Susanne Bonamici (OR-01)
Madeleine Bordallo (GU-AL)
Dan Boren (OK-02)
Leonard Boswell (IA-03)
Robert Brady (PA-01)
Bruce Braley (IA-01)
Corrine Brown (FL-03)
Lois Capps (CA-23)
Michael Capuano (MA-08)
Russ Carnahan (MO-03)
John Carney (DE-AL)
Judy Chu (CA-32)
David Cicilline (RI-01)
Hansen Clarke (MI-13)
Yvette Clarke (NY-11)
William Lacy Clay (MO-01)
Emanuel Cleaver (MO-05)
Steve Cohen (TN-09)
John Conyers (MI-14)
Joe Courtney (CT-02)
Mark Critz (PA-12)
Joseph Crowley (NY-07)
Elijah Cummings (MD-07)
Susan Davis (CA-53)
Danny Davis (IL-07)
Peter DeFazio (OR-04)
Diana DeGette (CO-01)
Rosa DeLauro (CT-03)
Theodore Deutch (FL-19)
Norman Dicks (WA-06)
John Dingell (MI-15)
Michael Doyle (PA-14)
Donna Edwards (MD-04)
Keith Ellison (MN-05)
Eliot Engel (NY-17)
Sam Farr (CA-17)
Chaka Fattah (PA-02)

Bob Filner (CA-51)
Marcia Fudge (OH-11)
John Garamendi (CA-10)
Gene Green (TX-29)
Raul Grijalva (AZ-07)
Janice Hahn (CA-36)
Colleen Hanabusa (HI-01)
Alcee Hastings (FL-23)
Martin Heinrich (NM-01)
Brian Higgins (NY-27)
Maurice Hinchey (NY-22)
Mazie Hirono (HI-02)
Tim Holden (PA-17)
Rush Holt (NJ-12)
Michael Honda (CA-15)
Steve Israel (NY-02)
Jesse Jackson (IL-02)
Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18)
Henry Johnson (GA-04)
Marcy Kaptur (OH-09)
William Keating (MA-10)
Dale Kildee (MI-05)
Ron Kind (WI-03)
Larry Kissell (NC-08)
Dennis Kucinich (OH-10)
James Langevin (RI-02)
Rick Larsen (WA-02)
Sander Levin (MI-12)
John Lewis (GA-05)
Daniel Lipinski (IL-03)
David Loebsack (IA-02)
Nita Lowey (NY-18)
Stephen Lynch (MA-09)
Carolyn Maloney (NY-14)
Edward Markey (MA-07)
Betty McCollum (MN-04)
Jim McDermott (WA-07)
James McGovern (MA-03)
Mike McIntyre (NC-07)
Jerry McNerney (CA-11)
Gregory Meeks (NY-06)
Michael Michaud (ME-02)
Brad Miller (NC-13)
George Miller (CA-07)
Gwen Moore (WI-4)
Chris Murphy (CT-05)

Grace Napolitano (CA-38)
Richard Neal (MA-02)
Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC-AL)
Bill Owens (NY-23)
Frank Pallone (NJ-06)
Bill Pascrell (NJ-08)
Gary Peters (MI-09)
Collin Peterson (MN-07)
Chellie Pingree (ME-01)
David Price (NC-04)
Charles Rangel (NY-15)
Silvestre Reyes (TX-16)
Laura Richardson (CA-37)
Steven Rothman (NJ-09)
Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34)
Dutch Ruppersberger (MD-02)
Bobby Rush (IL-01)
Tim Ryan (OH-17)
Loretta Sanchez (CA-39)
John Sarbanes (MD-03)
Jan Schakowsky (IL-09)
Kurt Schrader (OR-05)
Allyson Schwartz (PA-13)
Robert Scott (VA-03)
Jose Serrano (NY-16)
Adam Schiff (CA-29)
Bobby Schilling (IL-17)
Louise Slaughter (NY-28)
Adam Smith (WA-09)
Jackie Speier (CA-12)
Betty Sutton (OH-13)
Bennie Thompson (MS-02)
John Tierney (MA-6)
Paul Tonko (NY-21)
Edolphus Towns (NY-10)
Niki Tsongas (MA-5)
Chris Van Hollen (MD-8)
Mel Watt (NC-12)
Henry Waxman (CA-30)
Peter Welch (VT-AL)
Lynn Woolsey (CA-06)

CHRISTOPHER S MURPHY
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4476

CONNECTICUT OFFICE:
114 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 206
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
860-223-8412

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0705

April 24, 2012

The Honorable Leon Panetta
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta,

I am writing with great concern over a Senate Armed Services Committee investigation and a recent GAO report outlining the prevalence of counterfeit parts in our defense supply chain. I am especially alarmed, as I'm sure you are, at the prevalence of counterfeit parts coming from China. This poses a serious threat to our national security as well as our economic security.

The Senate Armed Services committee investigation found more than 1,800 instances of counterfeit electronic parts in the defense supply chain. The systems affected by this counterfeit material include the Navy's SH-60B helicopter, made by Sikorsky and the C-17 aircraft, whose engine is made by Pratt & Whitney. Both Pratt & Whitney and Sikorsky are Connecticut companies who employ over of 12,000 people in the state. Companies in Connecticut and across America are usually unaware that they are dealing with counterfeit parts, and Senate Armed Services Committee investigators found that 70% of all counterfeit parts originated in China. When the GAO conducted a similar operation, they set up a dummy company to buy 16 different parts, which all turned out to be counterfeit from China. This behavior puts our troops in danger, and it must be stopped.

Whether it was Waterbury brass used during World War II or the latest Virginia-Class submarines from Groton, Connecticut has a rich history of manufacturing materials for the Department of Defense. However, our current lack of strong Buy American policies and the counterfeiting uncovered in these investigations are hurting the economy and our manufacturers in Connecticut and all across the country. In the current economic environment, we must act now to stop the loss of U.S. manufacturing jobs as a result of Chinese counterfeiting. As Chairman of the Congressional Buy American Caucus, I believe that we could eliminate the problems identified in these investigations by making a more thorough commitment to using American-made parts in our defense supply chain.

The Fiscal Year 2012 National Defense Authorization Act includes provisions that will protect our troops and bring jobs back to America by cracking down on counterfeit parts. This legislation requires agencies, such as the Department of Defense and



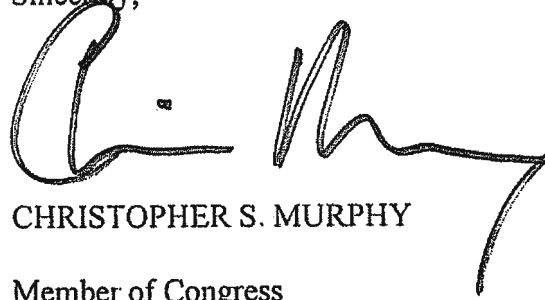
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Department of Homeland Security, to work together to establish a program of enhanced inspection of imported electronic parts. It imposes stiff penalties on companies who use counterfeit parts, requires large defense contractors to establish systems for detecting and avoiding counterfeit materials, and authorizes reductions in contract payments to contractors who fail to do so.

Counterfeiting is costing us jobs, untold billions of dollars, and most importantly, it puts our brave men and women in the military at risk. When we ask a soldier to carry out a mission on behalf of the United States, we owe it to them to assure that the systems they are using are safe and secure. I ask that you immediately implement the strict enforcement and punitive measures laid out in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

Thank you for your work in keeping our troops safe. Please let me know how we can work together on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Murphy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

June 15, 2009

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon, Room 3E880
Washington D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Gates:

We write to applaud your decision to terminate the troubled VH-71 presidential helicopter replacement program. A program that does not meet requirements in terms of capability and schedule, and is twice the original cost after only four years, is a program that should be canceled if we are going to keep defense programs accountable for their projected budgets and timelines.


Nevertheless, we do have serious concerns over the sunk costs of the program. Projected to be nearly \$3.2 billion, this cost represents a real investment by the taxpayer that should not to be ignored. We believe it would be prudent to move forward with the program in a way that does not waste this substantial taxpayer investment.


One solution might be to award the contract to the only other qualified competitor, Sikorsky's H-92 helicopter, and team Sikorsky with the incumbent systems integrator, Lockheed Martin. As you know, Sikorsky, the prime contractor for the Marine One since the 1950s, has fulfilled its contracts on time and on budget. This solution offers the dual benefit of "saving" some of the previously sunk costs, particularly jobs in both New York and Maryland, and creating additional American jobs by having those aircraft manufactured in the United States. At a time of severe economic crisis, this solution seems ideal.


You correctly identified the need to terminate a program with costs that grew from an estimated \$6.5 billion to over \$13 billion, but also made clear that there is a need to develop a follow on option. It is our understanding that the Sikorsky H-92 is currently qualified to meet the mission requirements and is currently more "fail-safe" than the VH-71 Increment I aircraft. By teaming Sikorsky with Lockheed Martin, the Navy can develop a helicopter that can safely transport the president while not only providing the best value for the taxpayer, but also maintaining and creating American jobs.


Thank you for the consideration of this request and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress


JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress


JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress


CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Raymond Mabus
Secretary of the Navy

The Honorable Ashton B. Carter
Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

412 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4476

CONNECTICUT OFFICE:
114 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 206
NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051
860-223-8412

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0705

July 11, 2012

The Honorable Leon Panetta
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta,

I write to you today because I remain concerned with the substantial use of waivers to the Buy American Act by the Department of Defense (DoD). In the last several years, these waivers have facilitated the purchase of billions of dollars of goods and services from foreign firms. I believe this has cost jobs in the U.S. and has depressed our economic recovery.

In the past, my office compiled a report that analyzed the waivers issued by DoD from FY07-FY09, which showed that your department purchased items from foreign entities valued at \$53 billion. In the last two years alone, FY10 and FY11, purchases where the Buy American Act was waived, or did not apply accounted \$52 billion. During those same years, my home state of Connecticut, which has a proud history of supplying goods to the DoD, has lost 27,000 manufacturing jobs. Manufacturers from across my district have told me time and again about the direct relationship between these Buy American waivers and jobs that are lost in Connecticut.

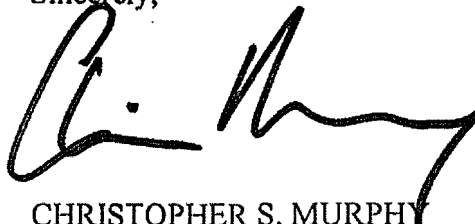
Like you, I believe it is squarely in our national security interest to maintain our defense industrial base. But when DoD makes procurement decisions that send taxpayer dollars to foreign firms, we lose the capacity to manufacture that item here at home. Any money that may be saved by purchasing an item from a low-cost country is immediately erased by the negative economic impact of a lost job in the United States.

One of the most frequently used methods of purchasing items from foreign manufacturers is when the item is to be used outside of the United States. Last year this loophole accounted for 82 percent of purchases from foreign entities. I would like to know if the department has assessed the impact of this policy on American jobs. In addition, do you believe that a change in this policy could result in the strengthening of the domestic defense industrial base?



In closing, I know we share the goal of making our nation as strong as possible both economically and militarily and I am eager to work with you to find ways to strengthen the industrial base, which is ultimately vital to our overall security. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Murphy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
Member of Congress



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

July 2, 2010

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates,

We would like to express our appreciation for the diligent work and support you continue to provide our troops. In particular, we applaud your support for the men and women of the 116th Air Control Wing who accomplish the mission of the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS). JSTARS is providing unparalleled, wide-area surveillance Ground Moving Target Indicator (GMTI) and Dismount MTI (DMTI) data to our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq who are fighting the global war on terrorism.

We are, however, concerned with the pace in which the Air Force is advancing the JSTARS re-engining program. Last year, Under Secretary Ashton Carter issued an Acquisition Decision Memorandum directing the Air Force to "continue the JSTARS re-engining System Design and Development phase, including the development, flight-testing, and production of the initial increment of re-engining shipsets. The Air Force should immediately identify and obligate RDT&E and procurement funding necessary to execute this direction." It is our understanding that the intent of this direction to the Air Force was to utilize funds that had originally been appropriated for JSTARS re-engining, but were diverted to other uses.

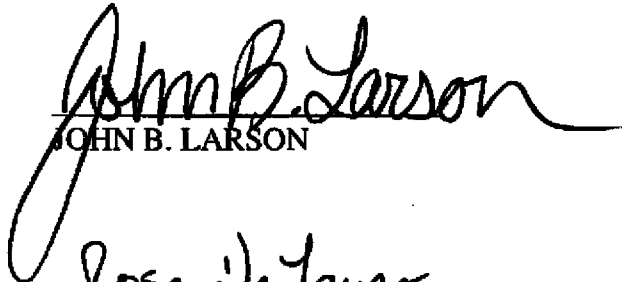
Additionally, the FY10 Defense Appropriations Conference Report contained the following language: "The Department of Defense decision to proceed with the JSTARS re-engining program is supported in the recommendation. It is noted that the JSTARS program has been used as a source of funds for reprogramming in the past. The Air Force is encouraged to restore those prior year funds if additional resources are needed. The recommendation provides, \$115,900,000, an increase of \$46,000,000, in the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation funding and provides \$54,000,000 in the Aircraft Procurement, Air Force appropriation." Clearly, the Congressional intent was to support procurement of additional JSTARS engines.

Despite Under Secretary Carter's and the Congress' directive, we see no evidence that the Air Force intends to use designated funds for their intended purpose. As a result, we would request your personal attention in ensuring this important program is put back on track.

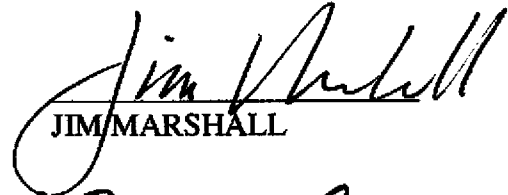


As always, thank you for your attention to this matter and for the exemplary leadership that you provide our nation's armed forces.

Sincerely,



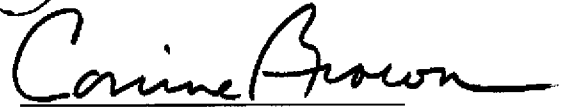
JOHN B. LARSON



JIM MARSHALL



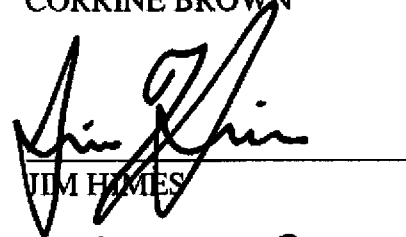
ROSA DELAURO



CORRINE BROWN



TOM ROONEY



JIM HIMES



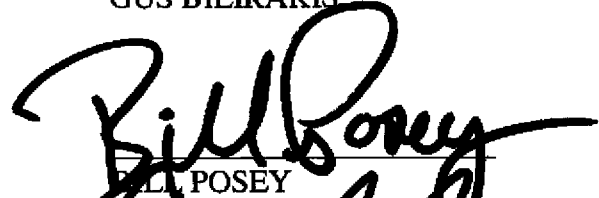
JOE COURTNEY



GUS BILIRAKIS



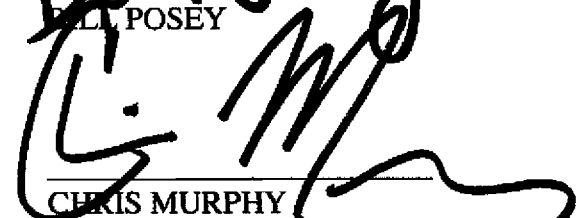
DOUG LAMBORN



BILL POSEY



LYNN WESTMORELAND



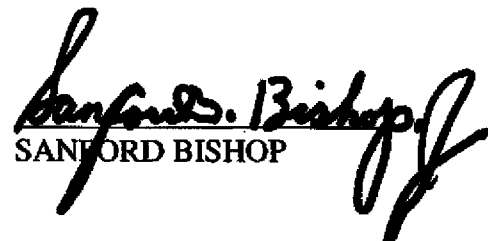
CHRIS MURPHY



ANDER CRENSHAW



SUZANNE KOSMAS




SANFORD BISHOP



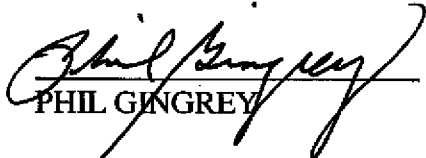
LARRY KISSELL


ALAN MOLLOHAN


JOHN L. MICA

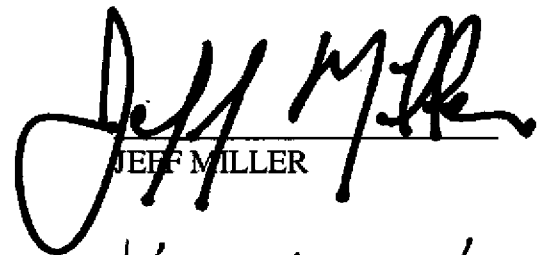

MARK S. CRITZ


LEONARD BOSWELL


PHIL GINGREY


WALTER JONES


MIKE MCINTYRE


JEFF MILLER


PAUL BROWN


KENDRICK MEEK


MICHAEL ARCURI


ELIOT ENGEL

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 29, 2010

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary
U.S. Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Secretary Gates:


It is our pleasure to write in support of the application submitted by Wraith Technologies, LLC for funding through the Defense Science Research & Technology grant.

Wraith Technologies seeks funds for a catalytic control system that will convert atmospheric carbon emissions into liquid fuels. This development will improve fuel logistics and our environment by reducing significant amounts of greenhouse gases found in the atmosphere. To our understanding, the only emission that is produced by endothermic methodologies is free oxygen. It has been represented to us that this conversion of carbon emissions into liquid fuels will provide the United States with some relief from foreign oil dependency and may provide assistance to disadvantaged areas by providing electricity as well as fuel for farming and irrigation.

The implementation of this innovative catalytic control system technology will also create engineering and manufacturing jobs here in Connecticut. This will assist those in our state who have been hard hit by the recession. This project will help displaced Connecticut workers find gainful employment by training and preparing them for work in our clean energy economy, and will also afford our state a great competitive advantage in the clean energy market. With this proposal, Wraith Technologies can offer our recent engineering graduates the opportunity to remain in state with exciting new career prospects.

We anticipate that this project will contribute to economic recovery and environmental health in Connecticut. We fully support the proposal set forth by Wraith Technologies, LLC and respectfully request that their application for funding receive full and fair consideration. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

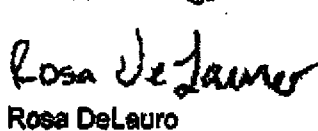

Joseph I. Lieberman
United States Senator


Christopher J. Dodd
United States Senator


John B. Larson
Member of Congress


Christopher S. Murphy
Member of Congress


Joseph Courtney
Member of Congress


Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress

OSD 09347-10



Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 26, 2008

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates,

We are writing to express our strong support for the Military OneSource Program, as well as our interest in ensuring that the upcoming contract competition for administering this initiative is fair and open.

As you know, the Military OneSource Program has had a complicated procurement history. Since its inception in 2003, the contract procurement process has shifted among several different agencies. We have been informed that the RFP was initially scheduled to be issued on July 10, 2008, but was only released last week. Moreover, the contract is apparently being administered by the Department of the Interior's Acquisition Services Directorate, even though the program exclusively serves Department of Defense personnel.

Given these set of circumstances, we would appreciate some information on the current status of the Military OneSource contract. Specifically, we request an explanation of the Department's decision to extend the contract when it last expired without any public notice or justification. Furthermore, it is unclear which agency is currently administering this contract. Please identify to us the current agency responsible for this contract, why that agency was selected, and the terms of the current contract.

We would also like to know why the Department has postponed its previously announced bidders' conference until *after* the RFP is released. Finally, we request that you share with us whatever mechanisms are in place to ensure fairness and openness of the Military OneSource procurement process.

We know that you share our commitment to promoting initiatives so important to military families' quality of life and appreciate your attention to this important matter.



Christopher J. Dodd
UNITED STATES SENATOR

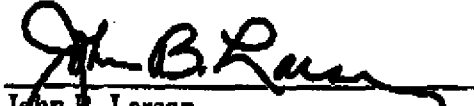
Sincerely,

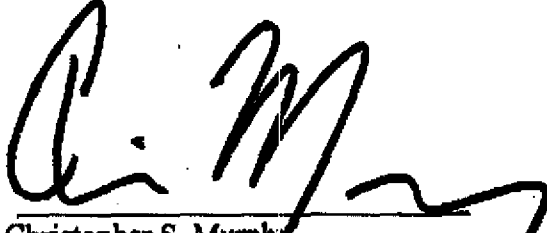


Joseph I. Lieberman
UNITED STATES SENATOR


Joseph Courtney
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE


Rosa L. DeLauro
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE


John B. Larson
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE


Christopher S. Murphy
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE


Christopher Shays
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

cc: David S. C. Chu, Ph.D, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 24, 2007

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon, Room 3E880
Washington, DC 20301

The Honorable Robert J. Nicholson
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary Gates and Secretary Nicholson:

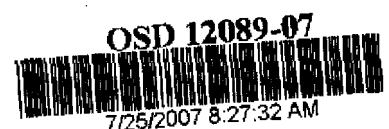
We are writing to express our deep concern with regard to your agencies' failure to accurately inform our National Guard and Reservists returning from a war zone of their Montgomery G.I. Bill-Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR) benefits and to request that you take immediate steps to notify each of these individuals in writing of their educational entitlements.

As you know, the National Guard and Reserves are an indispensable part of both our efforts in Iraq and the broader global war on terror. Between September 2001 and March of this year, 235,703 National Guard and 186,066 Reservists were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. As of May 2007 the National Guard and Reserves represented 16 percent of our fighting force in Iraq and 15 percent of our fighting force in Afghanistan. These figures, along with the April announcement that an additional 12,000 National Guard combat forces will soon deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan, make clear that these brave men and women play a very significant role in our war effort.

As you are also aware, legislation was enacted in 2005 to reward these Guard and Reservists returning from war by making them eligible for educational benefits similar to active duty troops. If they end their service, these individuals are still entitled to MGIB-SR benefits for the number of months they were activated plus four months. Yet, both of your agencies are failing to properly convey the law to local military and veterans' counselors leading to a situation in which thousands of Guard and Reservists returning from Afghanistan and Iraq may have been misinformed about their eligibility for educational benefits.

We recognize that both of your departments have taken steps, such as updating your websites, to notify Guard and Reservists of their MGIB-SR benefits. Nevertheless, we are still concerned that most of these members remain uninformed of their eligibility for educational benefits. It is therefore our belief that the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs must take immediate corrective action and notify in writing all Guard and Reservists, past and present, of their MGIB-SR eligibility.

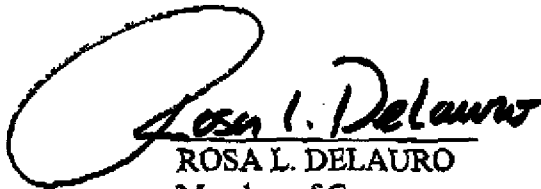
When a computer containing the personal information of as many as 26.5 million veterans and active-duty troops was stolen the VA sent out mass mailings to notify those



affected. We believe a similar effort is warranted here and respectfully request that your departments work together and mail to all eligible individuals materials detailing their MGIB-SR benefits. In addition, we request that you allow these individuals to elect these benefits within one year of the date the letter is sent or allow them to retroactively receive the benefits they are owed if they already attended school. Only through such action can we ensure that these brave men and women have the opportunity to take advantage of this very important reward we are offering for their service to our country.

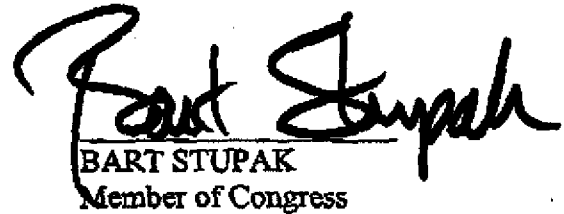
Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,


ROSA L. DELAURO
Member of Congress


RUSH HOLT
Member of Congress


CHAKA FATTAH
Member of Congress

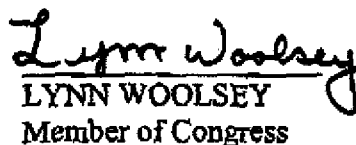

BART STUPAK
Member of Congress


EILE DELAHUNT
Member of Congress

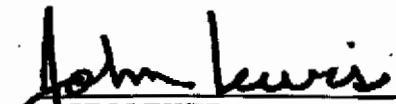

SANDER LEVIN
Member of Congress


COLLIN C. PETERSON
Member of Congress


PETER DEFAZIO
Member of Congress


LYNN WOOLSEY
Member of Congress



LEONARD BOSWELL
Member of Congress



JOHN LEWIS
Member of Congress


DENNIS J. KUCINICH
Member of Congress



MAURICE HINCHEY
Member of Congress


JIM MORAN
Member of Congress


BOB FILNER
Member of Congress

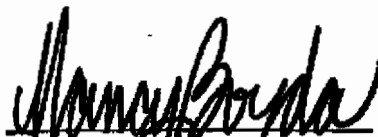

DAVID WU
Member of Congress


STEVE KAGEN
Member of Congress


PETE STARK
Member of Congress



ROBERT A. BRADY
Member of Congress


KENDRICK B. MEEK
Member of Congress

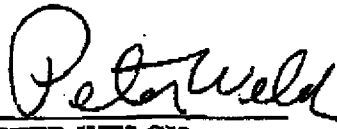

NANCY BOYDA
Member of Congress



HANK JOHNSON
Member of Congress


GENE TAYLOR
Member of Congress



CAROL SHEA-PORTER
Member of Congress

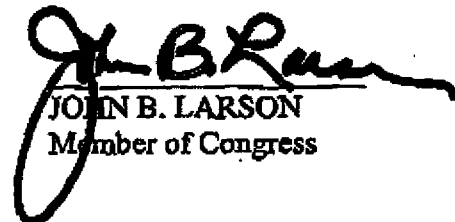

DONALD M. PAYNE
Member of Congress


PETER WELCH
Member of Congress


ROBERT WEXLER
Member of Congress



CHARLIE WILSON
Member of Congress



STEVE COHEN
Member of Congress



JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress


DANNY K. DAVIS
Member of Congress


DORIS O. MATSUI
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Member of Congress



LLOYD DOGGETT
Member of Congress

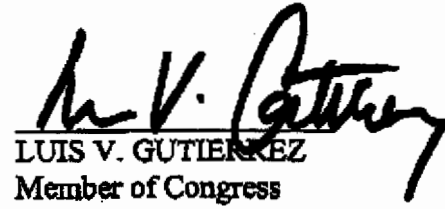

ALBERT WYNN
Member of Congress



PATRICK J. KENNEDY
Member of Congress


DARLENE HOOLEY
Member of Congress


JESSE L. JACKSON JR.
Member of Congress


GWEN MOORE
Member of Congress


LUIS V. GUTIERREZ
Member of Congress



RICHARD E. NEAL
Member of Congress


JOSE E. SERRANO
Member of Congress



JIM MCDEERMOTT
Member of Congress


JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress


BARON HILL
Member of Congress


ALCEE L. HASTINGS
Member of Congress



TIM RYAN
Member of Congress


JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress


JASON ALTMIRE
Member of Congress


LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress


CAROLYN KILPATRICK
Member of Congress


JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress


ZACK SPACE
Member of Congress


ALAN MOLLOHAN
Member of Congress


BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress


RUBEN HINOJOSA
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 4, 2009

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

The Honorable Ray Mabus
Secretary
US Department of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Admiral Gary Roughead, USN
Chief of Naval Operations
United States Navy
2000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350

Dear Secretary Gates, Secretary Mabus and Admiral Roughead:

In recent weeks, there have been media reports suggesting that the shipbuilding plan, to be submitted with the Fiscal Year 2011 budget, could include a reduction in attack submarine procurement. We write today in strong opposition to such a plan.

As you know, last year the Department of Defense and the Navy reached an important milestone when it signed a \$14 billion, five year multi-year procurement (MYP) contract with General Dynamics Electric Boat, and their partner Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding, for the procurement of eight *Virginia*-class submarines between 2009 and 2013 -- including the increase to two a year starting in 2011. This "Block III" contract capped a two year effort to accelerate the increased procurement of new *Virginia*-class submarines from 2012 to 2011. This was an important step towards ensuring that the submarine force has the resources it needs to accomplish its diverse array of missions, and protect the security of our nation.

Yet, based on the Navy's own stated force requirements in the FY2009 shipbuilding plan -- the last one submitted to Congress -- our nation will still have fewer than the 48 submarines we need for a 12 year period between 2022 and 2033. Further, in 2008, the attack submarine force was only able to meet a total of 49 percent of all missions requested of it -- and it will be asked to continue to "do more with less" as the demand for their unique stealth and intelligence capabilities increases while force levels decline.

That is why we are concerned that the Department of Defense may be considering a potential one-boat reduction in the number of submarines it plans to procure between 2011 and 2015, the period covered by the next shipbuilding plan to be submitted to Congress with the FY2011 budget request. If these reports are accurate, it would represent a significant step backwards from clear Congressional support for a sustained two a year attack submarine build rate, as well as from

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clearly identified needs within the submarine force and our domestic industrial base.

As such, we hope you will reconsider any proposals to reduce the submarine build rate during this period and fully support a sustained two-a-year procurement rate beginning in FY2011. We believe that such a policy is in interest of our long term submarine force structure requirements, our industrial base and our nation.

We look forward to your response. As always, thank you for your service to our nation and dedication to the men and women of our Armed Forces.

Sincerely,



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress



ROBERT J. WITTMAN
Member of Congress



J. RANDY FORBES
Member of Congress



JAMES R. LANGEVIN
Member of Congress



GENE TAYLOR
Member of Congress



W. TODD AKIN
Member of Congress



ROSCOE G. BARTLETT
Member of Congress



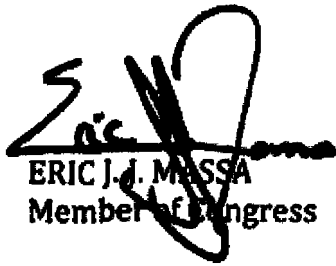
TIM HOLDEN
Member of Congress



CAROL SHEA-PORTER
Member of Congress



JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress



ERIC J. J. MASSA
Member of Congress



GLENN C. NYE
Member of Congress



KEN CALVERT
Member of Congress




MARCIA L. FUDGE
Member of Congress



ERIC CANTOR
Member of Congress



DAVID P. ROE
Member of Congress




GERALD E. CONNOLLY
Member of Congress



BRAD ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress



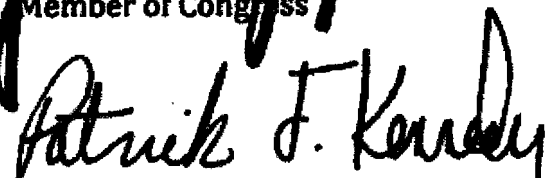
ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
Member of Congress



GABRIELLE GIFFORDS
Member of Congress




PATRICK J. KENNEDY
Member of Congress




JOSEPH R. PITTS
Member of Congress



G. K. BUTTERFIELD
Member of Congress


JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON
Member of Congress



JOHN A. BOCCIERI
Member of Congress


CORRINE BROWN
Member of Congress


THOMAS S. P. PERIELLO
Member of Congress


FRANK R. WOLF
Member of Congress



JAMES P. MORAN
Member of Congress


RICK BOUCHER
Member of Congress

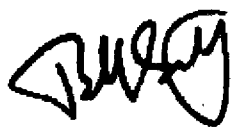

BOB GOODLATTE
Member of Congress


TIM MURPHY
Member of Congress


PAUL TONKO
Member of Congress


JAMES A. HIMES
Member of Congress


BETTY SUTTON
Member of Congress


ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 30, 2011

The Honorable Ashton B. Carter
Deputy Secretary of Defense
1010 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1010

Dear Secretary Carter,

We note with great concern the testimony of Air Force Chief of Staff General Schwarz on November 2, 2011, before the House Armed Services Committee, that the Air Force is considering the elimination of the C-27J. It is our understanding that since this testimony, the Air Force has proposed to you the elimination of operating funding for the entire program beginning in FY 2013. This proposal is deeply troubling to us for a number of reasons, and we urge you to carefully consider the full impact of such a proposal to our state and to the airlift capability of our military.

As you know, the last BRAC round made significant changes to the lay down of aircraft within the ANG, including the removal of the A-10 aircraft from the 103rd Fighter Wing (now Airlift Wing) in Connecticut. The loss of a flying mission is a direct threat to the manpower, readiness and relevance of our ANG units and their continued ability to meet their state and federal duties. According to the 2008 Air Force Weapon Systems Roadmap, as well as subsequent planning by the Air Force and National Guard Bureau as recent as the President's Fiscal Year 2012 budget request, our ANG is expected to receive the JCA.

This exciting new mission will bring the "Flying Yankees" to the forefront of critical intra-theater lift requirements covering that last tactical mile of combat operations and domestic disaster response. Even under a reduced and constrained budget, the Department of Defense will still have a clear and urgent need to support the Army's requirement for time sensitive intra-theater lift missions. Given that our state is emerging from a recently declared natural disaster, it is important to also note the role of the JCA in enabling enhanced, dedicated support to more FEMA regions, and accelerated support to disaster areas in the homeland.

We believe the JCA meets the needs of Air National Guard (ANG) states such as Connecticut that were impacted in BRAC, while also addressing the capability gap faced by our warfighters with regards to intra-theater lift. To this end, we urge you to give full consideration to the significant impact the elimination of the JCA would have on both the homeland defense of the New England FEMA Region and the intra-theater lift requirements of the Army, and reject any recommendation to terminate the program or reduce the current ANG beddown plan.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns as you continue your deliberations. As always, we thank you for your service to our nation and look forward to continuing to work with you to support our men and women in uniform.

Sincerely,



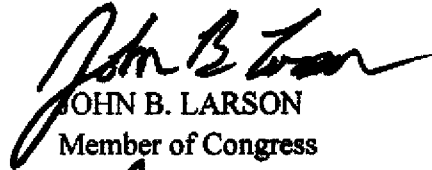
JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN
United States Senator



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senator



ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress



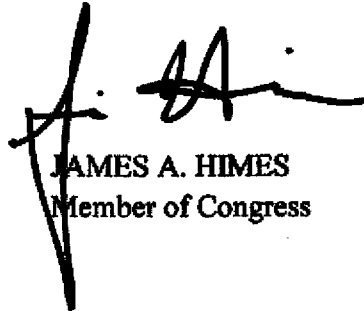
JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
Member of Congress



JAMES A. HIMES
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2007

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC, 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Gates:

We understand that the Department of Defense is considering ceasing production of the F-22A Raptor following completion of the current multi-year procurement contract. We believe such a decision would be ill-advised and premature, given the recapitalization shortfalls facing our US Air Force and the rapidly emerging airborne and surface-to-air threats facing our nation's military.

The F-22A Raptor is exceeding all expectations in operational performance as well as production schedule and quality. The USAF urgently needs to replace approximately 500 1970-80's vintage F-15A-D Eagles. Despite the AF's oft-stated minimum requirement for 381, we note that DoD's program of record 183 total is not supported by any rigorous campaign-based analysis assessing the most stressing scenarios and rapidly growing threats. Rather, it has been reported that at least three independent studies commissioned by DoD recommended procuring significantly more than 220 Raptors because of its singularly unique capability to overwhelm all air and surface-to-air threats.

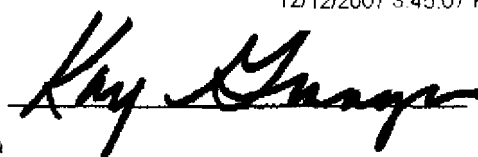
Meanwhile, it has recently been reported that three near-peer potential adversaries are busy co-developing two different stealth, twin-engine, high-altitude, Raptor-like fighters. Terminating the Raptor program at such a crucial and uncertain time only further encourages our potential adversaries to continue down this path. It also risks abandoning our AF's unique ability to deter aggressive actions and when called upon, dominate the airspace over our global allies, interests and deployed troops.

Furthermore, the F-22A Raptor is the world's only 5th Generation Fighter line currently in full-rate production. Over 25,000 Americans working for 1000 suppliers in 44 states manufacture this unique national asset. These are highly technical jobs that represent the leading edge of our nation's aerospace industry. Additionally, it is estimated another 70,000+ Americans owe their jobs indirectly to this program.

We urge you to continue procurement of the F-22A Raptor by including sufficient funds in the FY09 budget request to procure long-lead items for an additional lot of planes, beyond the current multi-year contract. We believe any decision to terminate production of this aircraft at such an early stage is more appropriately deferred until completion of the 2009 Quadrennial Defense Review which will assess current and future threats and recommend the necessary procurement strategies to fully support our national security requirements.

Sincerely,





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Tom Scott

Connie Mack

Rob Doff

M. J. T. McCall

Sam Cole

Miles Degen

Patrick Pithney

Carlson

Joe Cantay

John Baerow

Joey Wilson

Bill Shuster

C. M. →

Jacqueline T. Pugh

Jim Marshall

Thomas Price

Rhodes

John P. Sch...

Eric Cant

Devi Nunez

John B. Rann

John Kincaid

John A. Sayer 43

Bobby Scott

Sam Johnson

Hilda L. Aulis

Carol Shea-Poore

A. Dutch Ruppasberger

Joe Boston

Nathan Deal

Kenny Hunt

Jean Keller

Allen Boyd

Shelma Drake

Lynn A. White

Ronald L. Brown

XXXXXXXXXX
(TX-02)

Paul C. Brown

Ken Young

Ronald A. Mansfield

Elijah E. Cummings

Wayne T. Gilchrist

Rosa L. DeLauro

Jack Kingston

Lawrence D. Bumpers

Norm Hicks

Jerry Miller

Franklin D. Lucas

Harold P. "Bud" Shuster

John L. Dingens

Cliff Edwards

Clara Smith

Ralph M. Hall

John A. Lubiano

Scott R. Lujan

J. Saxton

John Sessions

Mark Johnson

Jim Cooper

Dale G. Kildee

San Fran

Reg. Walde

Richard E. Neal

Joann B. Ortiz

Reg. Lantier

Bee Young

Cc: The Honorable Jim Nussle, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Joshua Bolten, White House Chief of Staff

David Scott
Georgia, 13th

Connie Mack
Florida, 14th

Rob Bishop
Utah, 1st

Mike McCaul
Texas, 10th

Tom Cole
Oklahoma, 4th

Mike Rogers
Michigan, 8th

Patrick McHenry
North Carolina, 10th

Dan Boren
Oklahoma, 2nd

Joe Courtney
Connecticut, 2nd

John Barrow
Georgia, 12th

Joe Wilson
South Carolina, 2nd

Bill Shuster
Pennsylvania, 9th

Chris Murphy
Connecticut, 5th

Gabrielle Giffords
Arizona, 8th

Jim Marshall
Georgia, 8th

Tom Price
Georgia, 6th

Paul Hodes
New Hampshire, 2nd

John P. Sarbanes
Maryland, 3rd

Eric Cantor
Virginia, 7th

Devin Nunes
California, 21st

John Larson
Connecticut, 1st

Kenny Marchant
Texas, 24th

John Linder
Georgia, 7th

Dean Heller
Nevada, 2nd

Kay Granger
Texas, 12th

Allen Boyd
Florida, 2nd

Robert "Bobby" Scott
Virginia, 3rd

Thelma Drake
Virginia, 2nd

Sam Johnson
Texas, 3rd

Lynn Westmoreland
Georgia, 3rd

Hilda Solis
California, 32nd

Leonard Boswell
Iowa, 3rd

Carol Shea-Porter
New Hampshire, 1st

Ted Poe
Texas, 2nd

Dutch Ruppersberger
Maryland, 2nd

Paul Broun
Georgia, 10th

Joe Barton
Texas 6th

Don Young
Alaska, At-Large

Nathan Deal
Georgia, 9th

Donald Manzullo
Illinois, 16th

Elijah Cummings
Maryland, 7th

Chet Edwards
Texas, 17th

Wayne Gilchrest
Maryland, 1st

Chris Smith
New Jersey, 4th

Rosa DeLauro
Connecticut, 3rd

Ralph M. Hall
Texas, 4th

Jack Kingston
Georgia, 1st

Frank LoBiondo
New Jersey, 2nd

Sanford Bishop
Georgia, 2nd

Silvestre Reyes
Texas 16th

Norm Dicks
Washington, 6th

Jim Saxton
New Jersey, 3rd

Jeff Miller
Florida, 1st

Pete Sessions
Texas, 32nd

Trent Franks
Arizona, 2nd

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
Georgia, 4th

Howard P. "Buck" Mckeon
California, 25th

James McGovern
Massachusetts, 3rd

John Carter
Texas, 31st

Darlene Hooley
Oregon, 5th

Sam Graves
Missouri, 6th

Greg Walden
Oregon, 2nd

Richard Neal
Massachusetts, 2nd

Solomon P. Ortiz
Texas 27th

Doug Lamborn
Colorado, 5th

Bill C.W. Young
Florida, 10th

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2007

The Honorable Robert Gates
The Secretary of Defense
Room: 3E880
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary,

For each of the last two years, the United States Air Force (USAF) has not funded any C-17s in the President's budget submission. USAF leaders have expressed concerns during recent Congressional hearings regarding their inability to procure additional C-17s and have asked the House of Representative to add funding for C-17s during the appropriations process. While this approach was successful last year and may work again this year, there is widespread dissatisfaction in the House with this strategy. We instead are strongly urging that the USAF and DoD fully fund C-17 production in their FY 09 budget submission.

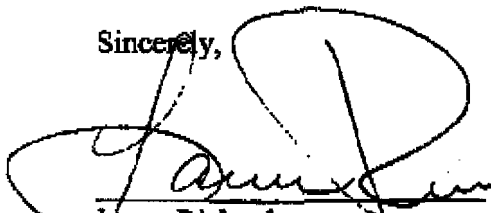
Failure to fund the C-17 will mean the loss of over 30,000 jobs in the U.S., loss of the nation's large military airplane industrial base, and will result in our loss of leadership in this area to Europe. Reopening the C-17 production line, if the DoD discovers it needs additional C-17s in the future, will cost billions and take years.


The USAF and DoD must continue to fund C-17s until all of the Department's on-going and planned airlift studies are complete and requirements are understood. We strongly urge you to fully fund 15 C-17s in the FY 09 budget submission. The approach used in the last two years – no funds but a last minute appeal to the Congress – will result in a strong negative response.

We need your commitment that you will do all you can to fund C-17 in the FY09 budget. We also request that if you cannot fully fund C-17s, additional aircraft must at least be at the top of your unfunded priority list at number one. The C-17 line is truly on the verge of shutting down – this would be a terrible outcome for the DoD and the nation.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,


Laura Richardson
Member of Congress


Todd Akin
Member of Congress

John B. Larson
John B. Larson
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Corrine Brown
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

Doris O. Matsui
Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

Edie Bernice Johnson
Edie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

Christopher S. Murphy
Christopher S. Murphy
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress

Frank A. LoBiondo
Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress

Grace A. Napolitano
Grace A. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Jane Harman
Jane Harman
Member of Congress

Howard L. Berman
Howard L. Berman
Member of Congress

Charles A. Gonzalez
Charles A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress

Jo Ann Emerson
Jo Ann Emerson
Member of Congress

Kenny C. Hays
Kenny C. Hays
Member of Congress

Jim Saxton
Jim Saxton
Member of Congress

David Loebsack
David Loebsack
Member of Congress

Dana Rohrabacher

Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress

Doc Hastings

Doc Hastings
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

Elton Gallegly

Elton Gallegly
Member of Congress

Linda T. Sanchez

Linda T. Sanchez
Member of Congress

Trent Franks

Trent Franks
Member of Congress

Norm Dicks

Norman D. Dicks
Member of Congress

Cathy McMorris Rodgers

Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress

Loretta Sanchez

Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress

Mary Bono Mack

Mary Bono
Member of Congress

Hilda L. Solis

Hilda L. Solis
Member of Congress

Tom Lantos

Tom Lantos
Member of Congress

Ken Calvert

Ken Calvert
Member of Congress

Gary G. Miller

Gary G. Miller
Member of Congress

Wm. Lacy Clay

Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress

Chris Smith


Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress

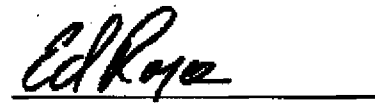

Howard P. McKeon
Member of Congress



K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress


Rob Bishop
Member of Congress


Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress

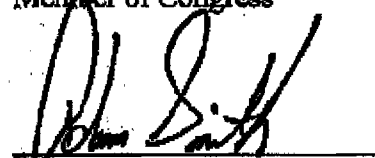

Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress



Edward R. Royce
Member of Congress

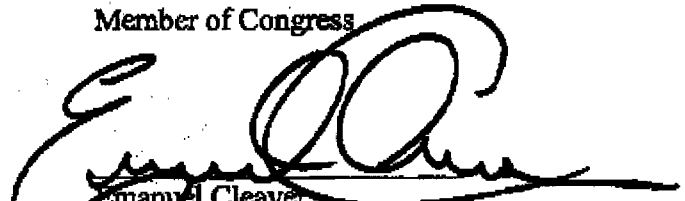

Sam Graves
Member of Congress



Darrell E. Issa
Member of Congress


David G. Reichert
Member of Congress


Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Jay Inslee
Member of Congress


Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress


Don Young
Member of Congress


David L. Hobson
Member of Congress


Henry E. Brown, Jr.
Member of Congress


Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress

Ralph M. Hall

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Member of Congress

John L. Mica

John L. Mica
Member of Congress

Donald A. Manzullo

Donald A. Manzullo
Member of Congress

Jerry Costello

Jerry Costello
Member of Congress

J. Randy Forbes

J. Randy Forbes
Member of Congress

Silvestre Reyes

Silvestre Reyes
Members of Congress

Kay Granger

Kay Granger
Member of Congress