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HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MONETARY POLICY AND TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

March 6, 2017

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
H-405, the U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter Visclosky
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member Visclosky,

I would first like to thank you and the members of the Defense Subcommittee on Appropriations for the opportunity to share my priorities. I am deeply appreciative of all that you do for our servicemen and women and for your commitment to providing robust funding to our armed forces.

As this subcommittee begins consideration of the Fiscal Year 2018 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, it is my distinct honor to write in support of the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate in Rome, New York (AFRL-Rome). This installation has for decades stood at the forefront of advanced cyber research and development projects within the Air Force. Today, AFRL-Rome leads a wide range of critical Command, Control, Communications, Computing, Cyber, and Intelligence (C4I) missions that are vital to supporting our warfighters and ensuring that a force capable of confronting 21st century challenges is deployed across the globe.

Ensuring that our warfighters have the tools and resources to dominate in cyberspace is among the core missions of AFRL-Rome. On today's high-tech battlefields, our country's superiority in cyberspace is critical. AFRL-Rome provides full spectrum support for cyberspace operations, equipping our operators with the agility to disrupt and deny adversary attacks and the resiliency to fight through and recover from successful intrusions. The premier set of technical competencies that AFRL-Rome brings to bear in cyberspace are truly world-class and the installation's breakthroughs in this area serve our warfighters each day in an untold number of ways.

AFRL-Rome is also leading the fight to maintain command and control superiority, both on the battlefield and in cyberspace. AFRL-Rome continues to push the boundaries in developing sophisticated technologies that effectively integrate resilient and robust command and control systems. The advancements made by AFRL-Rome have provided our warfighters with improved situational awareness through resilient unified planning systems, robust tools for the continuous

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assessment of the battlespace, and enhanced mission focused autonomy. For example, the Air Space Cyber-User Defined Operational Picture (ASC-UDOP) was developed by AFRL-Rome. This visual tool allows users to graphically configure and manipulate data streams from a variety of sources while operating in the air, space, and cyber domains. AFRL-Rome also led the way in developing the Joint Targeting Toolbox (JTT), which enhances the targeting capabilities of our warfighters at the national, theater, and operational levels. The JTT's suite of battle-tested web-based tools allows for decisive action, providing unparalleled insight at all operational stages.

Ensuring secure and effective communications and reliable connectivity are also vital components of AFRL-Rome's mission. In battlespaces that are increasingly congested and contested, AFRL-Rome provides the warfighter with agile and secure communications. On the ground, AFRL-Rome facilitates the deployment of technologies that allow our servicemen and women to securely share information via text, voice, and video and to maintain reliable and constant connectivity at all levels of command. In the air, AFRL-Rome has pioneered technologies to provide mission-responsive battlespace communication abilities across domains, agencies, and networks.

AFRL-Rome also has the capacity to grow and confront emerging challenges head on. For example, in the arena of unmanned aerial systems (UAS), AFRL-Rome is poised for significant contributions. As this committee surely knows, the threat posed by the proliferation of UAS is growing and varied. Recently, the Army released an unclassified report highlighting the threats posed by small UAS and identifying the need for advancements in counter-UAS technologies. There are countless examples of small UAS posing serious threats to our servicemen and women in Iraq, with ISIS increasingly relying on these relatively inexpensive tools. With expertise in cyberspace, command and control, and communications and connectivity, AFRL-Rome is leading the charge to find innovative ways of detecting, identifying, and disabling potentially hostile UAS.

It should be noted that AFRL-Rome's successes reverberate well beyond the Air Force. AFRL-Rome serves a range of clients other than the Air Force, including the Army, Navy and several affiliated defense agencies. In 2014 and 2015, AFRL-Rome leveraged more than \$1 billion in funding from these entities, in addition to funds appropriated by this subcommittee. This additional funding helps AFRL-Rome serve the vital and unmet research needs of the Department of Defense. Ultimately, the stronger AFRL-Rome's foundation is, the stronger our national defense will be.

AFRL-Rome also plays an outsized role in the local economy of my district. In Fiscal Year 2015, AFRL-Rome had an estimated local economic impact of \$300 million, which marked a 7 percent increase over the previous year. The installations workforce topped out at 789 personnel, with 732 classified as civilians and 57 as military personnel. AFRL-Rome anchors my district's burgeoning high-tech sector and has fast-become a critical engine of growth in our region.

This subcommittee has recognized the vital importance of AFRL-Rome in recent years, providing increased funding for AFRL-Rome's two budget lines, Cyber Battlespace Knowledge Development and Demonstration (PE: 0603788F) and Dominant Information Sciences and Methods (PE: 0602788F). The work supported by this funding is vital to maintaining AFRL-Rome's robust and effective set of research and development capabilities. Seeing as the President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) has yet to be delivered to Congress, I request that

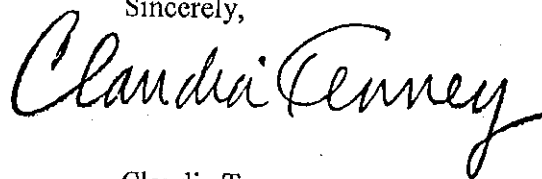
funding for these two programs in FY18 be maintained or increased to reflect new and evolving missions. Below is a table outlining recent funding approved by Congress in millions of dollars.

	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17
PE: 0602788F	\$136.9	\$147.0	\$169.2	\$161.7
PE: 0603788F	\$48.1	\$34.3	\$46.2	\$58.1

I would be remiss if I did not also request that the members of this subcommittee continue to prioritize funding for our national defense, generally. As the mother of an active duty Marine, I want nothing more than for my son and his fellow service members to have the tools, resources, and training to effectively and safely carry out their mission. As a Member of Congress tasked with safeguarding our country, I remain a steadfast advocate for robust defense funding.

I thank you again for considering my requests and am grateful for the opportunity to submit this written testimony. If I can answer any additional questions, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,



Claudia Tenney
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE