

Thank you Mr. Chairman [Rep. Ken Calvert] and Ranking member [Rep. Betty McCollum]:

I believe you know why I am here. It's my third appropriations round, and not much progress has been made. Regardless, I plan to continue pushing forward.

Selfridge Air National Guard Base—located in my district—flies an A-10 mission, which is scheduled to be retired, with no replacement. My goal here is to help the Air Force, our military, and YOU Mr. Chairman.

I request an increase in F-15EX and F-35A procurement. I don't understand how in our current environment, with the threats we face, we would allow the Air Force to end the procurement of the only other fighter line that they purchase. They have already allowed for the end of production of the F-22 from many years ago. It's unconscionable.

If you need help getting CCAs and NGAD, I am all on board. Our priorities are aligned. But Mr. Chairman, we are far from those being fielded in the near future. Now Boeing and Lockheed have a lot to answer for, but we need those fighters now.

Thanks to President Trump and Secretary Hegseth, we are working on cutting fat, waste, and abuse at the Pentagon. These cuts should create an opportunity to maintain and strengthen our warfighting capabilities, not lessen them. If Selfridge does not have a fighter mission, we will be weaker for it, not stronger.

Since taking office, President Trump has prioritized the security of both our Southern AND Northern Borders. Well Selfridge sits on the shores of Lake St. Clair, with Canada on the other side. If our Canadian partners cannot stop a threat coming through the Great Lakes, what will we do if our capabilities are absent?

Therefore, I request that you maintain a steady increase of 24 more fighter purchases of each aircraft, the F-15EX and F-35A respectfully. These purchases will make the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and the Air National Guard whole.