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June 22, 2020

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Granger:

I am writing to offer written testimony for House Appropriations Committee Member Day for two high priority funding requests to help protect national security and deter our adversaries.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, building a strong defense industrial base and supporting private industries efforts to develop new technologies is critical to countering our near peer competitors. With those efforts in mind, I respectfully request you include the two attached funding requests in the Fiscal Year 2021 Defense Appropriations bill:

Program Title: Adaptive-Optics Assembly Technologies for High-Energy Lasers

Agency: Defense-Wide

Account: RDT&E

Description: Request an \$11 million increase in the Defense-Wide, RDTE&E, Line 32, PE 0603180C, Advanced Technology Development for Adaptive-Optics Assembly Technologies for High Energy Lasers. Our warfighters need new technologies that are designed to apply the system level requirements of the Adaptive Optics assemblies in order to compete with our adversaries. The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) provides a contractual mechanism to fund innovative initiatives in the area of high-energy weapons development, and the MDA ManTech Office can fund a program to define and develop the design and manufacturing processes capable of sustaining the future requirements of MDA-High-Energy-Laser-Weapons-Systems Programs.

Program Title: Gun Launched Interceptors

Agency: Army

Account: RDT&E

Description: The United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC) requires \$8.0 M to fund a program to design and demonstrate producible, robust Gun Launched Interceptors (GLI) for Army air defense programs. These funds will support a two-year program to develop and implement key technologies. It will result in the fabrication and testing of prototype GLIs against demonstration targets. The ultimate result of the program will be a GLI design capable of being used in rounds as small as 20mm diameter.

I applaud the work the committee has already undertaken to rapidly grow our defense industrial base in recent years and believe inclusion of this funding will further that goal. I appreciate your commitment to our national security, servicemembers, and their families.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Very respectfully,



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress