

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 28, 2022

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chair
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
H-405 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Calvert:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2023 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, we write to express our support for the Army's request to install "critical safety improvements" including Antilock Brake System/Electronic Stability Control (ABS/ESC) to prevent unnecessary rollovers of the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs). As you may know, ABS/ESC has been included on all new production HMMWVs manufactured since November 2018, and funding to upgrade the existing fleet was included in the FY2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act at a level of \$193 million. While the program has existed for several years, this was the first year in which it was fully funded, and there remains a significant unmet need. The Army also prioritized this program with its inclusion in the FY23 Unfunded Priorities List. Funding for this program will save the lives of soldiers and collateral victims and must be addressed immediately.

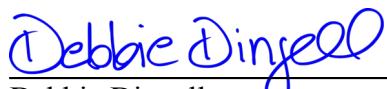
The HMMWV has been a workhorse vehicle for active duty, as well as the national guard and reserve, since 1983, and the enduring fleet of 54,810 vehicles is projected to remain in the U.S. Army's fleet until 2050. Through the years, upgrades to the vehicle have resulted in a higher probability of vehicle rollovers and increased occupant injuries and fatalities. During the last 22 years, there have been more than 900 rollover accidents involving U.S. Army HMMWVs, with more than 150 people killed and 700 injuries in noncombatant incidents. The Department of Defense recognized this problem and began to seek solutions in FY2010. On 17 November 2014, in an Operational Requirements Document (ORD) Clarification Letter, the Army Chief of Transportation clarified that the HMMWV -ORD- was originally intended to, and does, support an Antilock Brake System (ABS) and Electronic Stability Control (ESC) for both Up-Armored HMMWVs, as well as legacy HMMWVs, which support the Vehicle Control Enhancement ORD requirement.

Funding this request will expedite the critical process of installing government furnished kits to fielded HMMWVs. Red River Army Depot will support the installation of these kits at regional sites throughout the United States, identified by the Army, where the retrofit installations will take place while maintaining Unit readiness. Government furnished ABS/ESC

retrofit kits are an affordable solution that accelerates critical safety improvements when compared to application through new production or Recap programs.

We urge you to support the continuation and full funding of this bipartisan program at a level of \$193 million in fiscal year 2023 so that the Army can move forward with these lifesaving safety improvements.

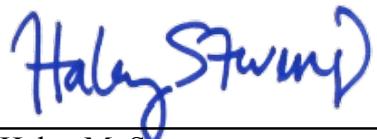
Sincerely,



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Pat Fallon
Member of Congress



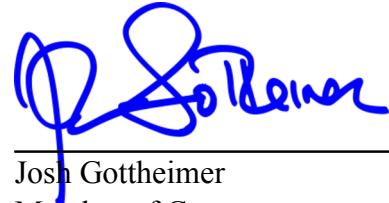
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



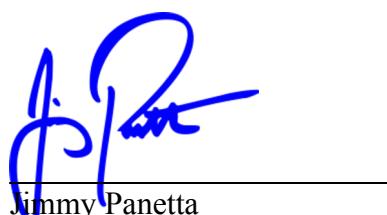
Lisa C. McClain
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress
Chair, Subcommittee on
Readiness



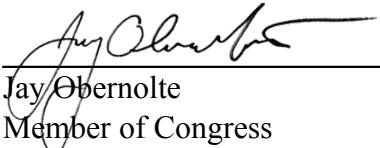
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Jay Obernolte
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress