

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 14, 2014

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense
Appropriations Committee
H-405, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Visclosky
Ranking Minority, Subcommittee on Defense
Appropriations Committee
H-405, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Visclosky:

We are writing to you regarding the Army's Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle (AMPV) program for which the Army has requested \$92.353 million in Research, Development, Test and Evaluation Program Element 0605028A in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget request. We urge the Committee to approve the budget request and permit the Army to proceed with its ongoing competitive solicitation for this program.

In 2007 the Army terminated support for the M113 Armed Personnel Carrier. The AMPV program is funded to develop and field a replacement for the M113. In the Fiscal Year 2012 Department of Defense Appropriations Conference Report, the Conferees addressed the AMPV requirement, noting "that the requirement to find a replacement for the M113 series of vehicles has received scant attention for too long. The conferees believe that prompt and decisive action is needed to select and advance a near-term solution rather than continuing a long-term search for the perfect solution."

Although we are disappointed that the Army did not elect to accelerate the AMPV program, the Army now has a long-awaited solicitation available to industry to provide a solution for AMPV which would use tracked and/or wheeled variants of systems already fielded. The Army is scheduled to award a contract for prototype vehicles as early as the second quarter of fiscal year 2015.

Suggestions that this program be delayed are without merit and would unnecessarily delay the delivery of a more survivable and mobile vehicle, placing the lives of American soldiers at risk. Permitting the Army to proceed with their competitive solicitation without further delay is the proper course of action.

We appreciate your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

Ralph M. Hall

Ralph M. Hall
Member of Congress

Scott Perry

Scott Perry
Member of Congress

Bill Posey

Bill Posey
Member of Congress

Joe Wilson

Joe Wilson
Member of Congress

Todd Young

Todd Young
Member of Congress

Jackie Walorski

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Member of Congress

Blake Farenthold

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Member of Congress

Keith Rothfus

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Joe Barton

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Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster

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Member of Congress

Shelley Moore Capito

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