

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3011

The Honorable Mark T. Esper
Secretary of the Army
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

March 7, 2019

Dear Secretary Esper,

It was great to meet you last month to discuss the Army's priorities for Fiscal Year 2020. I am aware of the Army's proposal to shift more than \$31 billion towards six modernization priorities, including the Long-Range Precision Fires (LRPF) mission at Picatinny Arsenal. I urge you to support the programs and related facilities and equipment required by the Armaments Center of the Combat Capabilities Development Command to accomplish the LRPF mission.

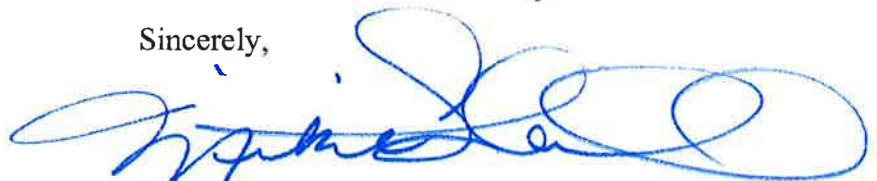
First, elevating the LRPF mission as you have planned should be complemented by an investment in the specific facilities that support this Army modernization priority. I am proud of the ongoing work at Picatinny Arsenal on the Extended Range Cannon Artillery (ERCA), a major component of the Army's effort to increase lethality within the LRPF mission. I urge you to take every opportunity to augment and enhance the facilities that support this program.

Second, I recently met with Brigadier General Abramson who briefed me on how the Army garrison works to support the numerous tenants at Picatinny Arsenal and how they would benefit from a new Access Control Point at the main gate. Army research facilities, such as Picatinny Arsenal rely on cooperative research and development occurring both on and off the installation. I respectfully request that you give all due consideration to the \$24 million needed for this military construction project to provide greater security for the highly-skilled workforce and military families.

Finally, as you are aware, the Fiscal Year 2019 Defense Appropriations Act provided \$41 million to build a Munitions Disassembly Complex at Picatinny Arsenal. I strongly oppose any reprogramming request to shift these funds away from their authorized and intended purpose.

I look forward to working with you on the Army's modernization priorities.

Sincerely,



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress