

PETE SESSIONS
17TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM

RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4317

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June 2, 2021

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman McCollum and Ranking Member Calvert:

As you begin crafting the fiscal year 2022 bill, I respectfully request that you give consideration to the following funding priority:

1. I am requesting a fiscal year 2022 funding level of \$1,665,000 for **development of a core manipulator joint** as a community project funding request. The intended recipient is the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) located at 7607 Eastmark Drive, College Station, Texas 77940. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would leverage the investments made by the Texas A&M University System and the State of Texas in the research, testing and evaluation facility located at Texas A&M's RELIS campus in Brazos County, Texas. This project will develop a US sourced space manipulator that can be licensed to military contractors for non-exclusive use, eliminating the challenges faced by previous contractors that were purchased by foreign-owned holdings.
2. Please support and include \$18,000,000 RDT&E funds to increase Air Force RDT&E. I expect this research and development request will advance the technologies necessary to create order of magnitude performance increases in space-based communications and RF sensing applications, and also expect some of this advanced defense research and development work will continue to be performed in Brazos County, Texas.
3. I am respectfully requesting you please increase funding at least by an additional \$6,000,000 for RDT&E, Defense Health Program, Line 7, PE 0604110, Medical Products Support and Advanced Concept Development in support of the Texas A&M Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing (Texas A&M CIADM), which has partnered with the M7TecGroup and Strategic Vaccines, LLC to secure a contract with Lockheed Martin Aerospace to go into wide scale production of FLOVID-20 at

Texas A&M University in Brazos County, Texas. FLOVID-20 is a game changing medical breakthrough that deploys this innovative technology to treat and protect asymptomatic patients with positive COVID-19 tests after a single inhalation treatment, and I fully support its development and the further development of Texas A&M CIADM.

4. I am respectfully requesting you please increase funding \$1,500,000 for the Small Business Innovation Research Program. This funding request would provide for a follow-on Phase II under the SBIR/STTR program solicitation X20.R Topic #AF20R-DCSO1 and allow for cross-agency transfer of a Hypoxia Training Device that has been developed for production in Brazos County, Texas by Lynntech, Inc. for the Naval Aviation Enterprise (NAE). Development of an Air Force version would require re-design and engineering features that are not required in the Navy product, and this request would fund a for an effort to accomplish this re-design. The production of Air Force units would be a follow-on to the current production for the Navy. This request is supported by Air Combat Command, the 711th Human Performance Wing and the School of Aerospace Medicine, all of whom have been heavily involved in joint Navy-Air Force analysis on the reasons for continuing physiological episodes in the cockpit.
5. I am respectfully requesting you please include a total funding level of at least \$130,000,000 for Submarine Supplier Development, Navy SCN, Line 2, Columbia Class Submarine AP in support of Butler Weldments, an industrial supplier to the U.S. Navy located in Cameron, Milam County, Texas to provide workforce training, increase manufacturing capacity, and to allow investment in the unique equipment required to build parts in the 17th Congressional District of Texas for Virginia and Columbia class submarines. I would like to see our military industrial supplier base grow and develop it the 17th Congressional District of Texas, and I believe Butler Weldments is a solid example of what our people can accomplish here serving the needs of our military.
6. I am respectfully requesting you please support the President's FY22 budget request for the EC-130H COMPASS CALL, EC-130H / EC-37B COMPASS CALL CROSS-DECK USAF Aircraft Procurement, Compass Call Line #18 Aircraft Procurement, Compass Call Line #55 RDTE Compass Call PE 0207253F Line #198. COMPASS CALL is the United States Air Force's premier wide-area coverage Airborne Electronic Attack (AEA) Offensive Counter Information (OCI) weapon system, which is put together by L3Harris Technologies and the aircraft that use it are modified at their facility in Waco, McLennan County, Texas.
7. I am respectfully requesting you please support the President's FY22 budget request for the Defense Wide Procurement SOCOM Armed Overwatch Line #55 RDT&E 1160403BB SF300: AO Targeting Line #258 in support of L3Harris Technologies that does the work necessary modifying aircraft in their Waco, Texas facility so that the Armed Overwatch program can provide our U.S. Special Operations Forces the low-cost, rapidly deployable, flexible, and highly sustainable aircraft systems necessary to defend liberty.

8. I am respectfully requesting you please include a total funding level of at least \$8,000,000 to in Other Procurement, Army, P-1 Line 108 "Mod of In-Svc Equipment (ENFIRE)" in support of the U.S. Army Combat Engineer Surveyors to perform reconnaissance, obstacle reporting, construction management, and surveying, and would expect this upgraded surveying equipment to be provided to the 1st Squadron, 112th Cavalry Unit stationed in Bryan, Brazos County, Texas and to also be put to use in homeland defense missions, domestic emergency responses, and for providing military support to civil authorities.

9. I am respectfully requesting including an additional \$139,500,000 million in FY 2022 for Agency Account: Army, Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles Line Number: P1 Line 4 PE Number (RDTE): NA Line Name: Stryker Upgrade in order to maintain the Army Modernization Strategy for the Stryker combat vehicle fleet by funding a full half brigade of Stryker combat vehicles in the FY22 cycle. Stryker remains the largest and most reliable combat vehicle fleet in the Army and is the centerpiece of nine Brigade Combat Teams. On behalf of our Army and the combat troops that serve in these Brigade Combat Teams I would like to see the Stryker vehicle fleet strengthened and expanded in FY 2022, and perhaps even stationed in the 17th Congressional District of Texas.

10. Finally, I am respectfully requesting \$500 million for U.S.-Israel missile defense programs, which is in keeping with the agreed upon ten-year Memorandum of Understanding and will be the amount requested in the President's FY 2022 Missile Defense Administration Budget. As you know, these programs are essential to the safety and security of Israel. Prioritizing and ensuring robust funding for these programs is necessary to address the evolving threats posed by Israeli adversaries, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran – all of which are developing more advanced short, medium, and long-range rocket and missile capabilities.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in the projects described above.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Pete Sessions (TX-17)
Member of Congress