PETE SESSIONS 17th District, Texas

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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> 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 4, 2021

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies U.S House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Carter Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies U.S House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Schultz and Ranking Member Carter:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2022 bill, I respectfully ask that you please give consideration to the following funding priorities:

- 1. In support of Bryan VA Clinic located in College Station, Brazos County, Texas and the veteran community of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District it serves, I respectfully request you please include the following report language in your FY2022 bill: "Veterans in Central-East Texas The Committee is aware of the growing population of veterans in Central-East Texas and notes that existing healthcare facilities in the Bryan/College Station area are undersized for the demand. The Committee requests a report on the need for additional veterans healthcare in the region within 90 days after enactment of this Act."
- 2. In support of the financial well-being of our service members and their families, I respectfully request you please include the following report language in your FY2022 bill, and that you please transfer this request to Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Calvert of the Defense Subcommittee in a timely manner if you find it not within the jurisdiction of your own Subcommittee: "The committee remains concerned that the full implementation of the Blended Retirement System as enacted in Title VI, Subtitle D, Part I of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 has not afforded younger servicemembers the proper access to robust financial security training for retirement. Our military retirement system for active-duty is designed to meet four main goals, one of those being to provide economic security for former members of the armed

forces during their old age. The Committee directs the Department of Defense to engage professional firms with expertise in financial education and training to ensure more robust financial and health benefit training program for members of the uniformed services as recommended in the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCRMC) Report. In engaging firms with financial expertise, the Committee encourages the Department to adopt protocols for engaging eligible professional firms to ensure that all instructors are qualified as appropriate for the subject matter presented, adopt appropriate eligibility criteria for such professional firms, and eliminate any existing prohibitions against such firms conducting financial education/training sessions on installations to ensure that today s servicemembers have access to the most qualified professionals regarding their future financial security.

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

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