

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Mac Thornberry  
Chairman  
House Armed Services Committee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Chairman  
House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee  
H-405, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Ranking Member  
House Armed Services Committee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter Visclosky  
Ranking Member  
House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

We write to you in strong support of the V-22 Osprey program. The Fiscal Year 2017 President's Budget request unexpectedly reduced the procurement of Osprey aircraft, and we ask for your assistance in restoring these aircraft.

The MV-22 has proven itself to be one of the most versatile warfighting assets in the Marine Corps inventory. The aircraft's exclusive tiltrotor technology combines unmatched speed with precise touchdown capability that makes the MV-22 the platform of choice for time critical missions in combat theater. Marine Corps commanders will articulate that the MV-22 offers them unprecedented ability to move troops and material around the battlefield faster than ever before. The Osprey's benefit to the warfighter now and into the future is clear.

The MV-22 is purchased under a five-year multi-year procurement (MYP) contract that was authorized in Fiscal Year 2013. At that time, all four congressional defense committees supported the contracting mechanism, which is estimated to save nearly \$1 billion over single-year contracts over that five-year period. The stable production has driven further efficiencies and offered certainty to a widespread industrial manufacturing base.

Unfortunately, the President's Budget request reduces the procurement of MV-22 aircraft by two aircraft, dropping below the required MYP rate for Fiscal Year 2017. This unanticipated reduction threatens termination of the contract. Increased unit costs and termination liability could ultimately lead to additional and unnecessary costs for the Department of the Navy. The

MYP has been such a benefit to the warfighter and the U.S. taxpayer that it should be a priority to maintain through its final year.

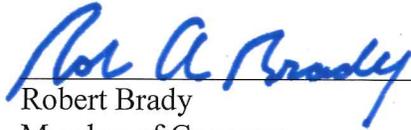
Congress, and your respective committees in particular, have reliably demonstrated strong support for the V-22 program. We ask that your committees continue that steadfast approach by restoring two MV-22 aircraft in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget to see through the conclusion of the MYP contract. That add will be good for the warfighter, the taxpayer, and the tens of thousands of workers who contribute to the V-22.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Patrick Meehan  
Member of Congress



Robert Brady  
Member of Congress



Ryan Costello  
Member of Congress



John Carney  
Member of Congress



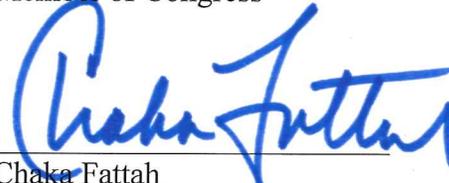
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Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Frank LoBiondo  
Member of Congress



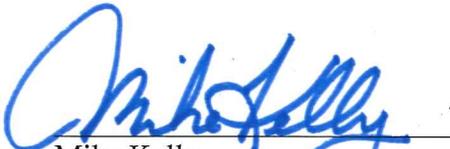
Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress

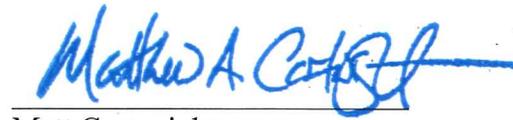


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Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress

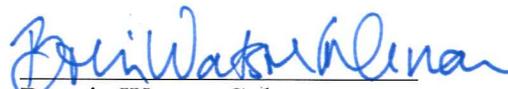
  
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Member of Congress

  
André Carson  
Member of Congress

  
Larry Bucshon  
Member of Congress

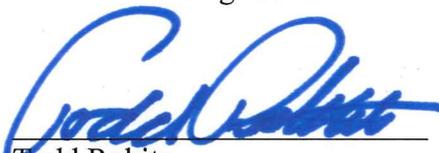
  
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Cc: Mr. Bob Simmons  
Mr. Paul Arcangeli  
Mr. Rob Blair  
Mrs. Rebecca Leggieri