

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

May 30, 2017

The Honorable Charlie Dent  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and  
Related Agencies  
HVC-227 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and  
Related Agencies  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Dent and Ranking Member Wasserman Schultz:

A better understanding of climate change and its associated impacts are critical to the mission of protecting our military assets and personnel, and ensuring that funding made available by this subcommittee is spent judiciously. As you know, there are a number of military installations and equipment domestically and internationally which face threats related to climate change, including coastal erosion, increased incidence of wildfire, sea-level rise, severe weather events, and increased tidal flooding.

One example of this is the Naval Station at Norfolk, Virginia which floods an estimated ten times a year. The Naval Station at Norfolk and other coastal military installations have seen tangible operational impacts due to changing climatic patterns which must be accounted for. Additionally, many military leaders have said that installations that rely on renewable energy, and operate independently of a major power grid, are more secure

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the committee include the following language in the Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs and Related Agencies Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2018.

*Climate change poses a significant threat to our national security. From sea level rise to increased drought and flooding across the country and the world, proper defense planning must include considerations related to climate change impacts. Funds made available within this bill for the Department of Defense should be used to plan infrastructure and other projects using the best available data and science on climate change to mitigate risks to our military assets and armed forces serving domestically and abroad.*

We thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request and look forward to its inclusion within the underlying legislation.

Sincerely,



Carlos Curbeo



John Faso

Ryan Costello

Ryan Costello

Don Bacon

Don Bacon

Brian K. Fitzpatrick

Brian Fitzpatrick

Patrick Meehan

Patrick Meehan