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COMMITTEES
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JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

March 3, 2022

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
Chairman
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs,
and Related Agencies Sub-Committee
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs,
and Related Agencies Sub-Committee
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Heinrich and Ranking Member Boozman:

Thank you for your continued leadership on the Senate Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. As you finalize the Fiscal Year 2022 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, I respectfully request that you fund the construction of facilities to support the F-35A mission at Luke Air Force Base.

The F-35A is the U.S. Air Force's latest fifth-generation fighter. Located west of Phoenix, Luke Air Force Base is home to the 56th Fighter Wing, the largest fighter wing in the world, and the primary active-duty fighter pilot training wing for the F-35A. Luke Air Force Base is in the process of transitioning to become the primary pilot training center for the F-35A, requiring significant infrastructure upgrades.

To support additional F-35A squadrons, I ask that the FY22 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill provide \$28 million for the construction of an Additions and Alterations Aircraft Maintenance Unit Facility and \$21 million for an additional F-35A Squadron Operations Facility at Luke Air Force Base. This critical funding will allow a sixth squadron to be based at Luke Air Force Base, and support the critical F-35A training missions at the facility.

Thank you for your important work and. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

