

STRONG COMMUNITIES. **STRONG** BASES.

The Honorable Richard Shelby Chairman Defense Subcommittee Senate Appropriations Committee S-128 The Capitol Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin Ranking Member Defense Subcommittee Senate Appropriations Committee 711 Hart Senate Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Shelby and Ranking Member Durbin,

On behalf of local governments across the nation, we urge you to provide funding for the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program (Section 2391(d) of title 10, United States Code) in the FY 2020 Department of Defense appropriations bill. This program, which was authorized in Section 2861 of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2019, will provide critical funding for off-base but adjacent community infrastructure projects for transportation, schools, hospitals, police, fire, emergency response, water, wastewater, telecommunications, electric, gas, or other utility infrastructure that is owned by a state or local government.

Quality of life for military families is a priority for the state and local communities that enjoy the privilege of hosting military installations and should also be a priority for the federal government. It is well documented that roads and other vulnerable infrastructure necessary to support military bases continues to deteriorate and many local governments face significant issues with flooding. We believe community infrastructure deficiencies directly impacts military readiness and federal funding to address these deficiencies will enhance military value, resilience, and military qualify of life at our nation's military installations.

Accordingly, we urge you to provide funding for the Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program, as state and local governments across the country battle the impacts of decaying infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Joe Driskill

Joseph L. Dishill

President, Association of Defense Communities

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Mayor, Huntsville

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^{*}Electronic signature not available.