

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

April 14, 2023

The Honorable Jon Tester
Chairman
Senate Defense Appropriations
Subcommittee
SD-122 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Ranking Member
Senate Defense Appropriations
Subcommittee
SD-122 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Tester and Ranking Member Collins:

Thank you for this committee's strong support of U.S.-Israel collaborative defense programs, including Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow, as well as our continued cooperative work on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). As you begin work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Defense Appropriations bill, we write seeking \$500 million for continued support for these programs in order to meet the United States' and Israel's national security needs.

Joint U.S.-Israel collaboration on Israel's multilayer missile defense system is instrumental to the defense of Israel. Since 1986, Congress and successive Administrations have demonstrated bipartisan support for joint U.S.-Israel missile defense collaboration. This partnership has helped build and maintain a multi-tiered Israeli missile defense system capable of countering a wide range of threats from state and non-state actors. In September 2016, this support was expressed in a Memorandum of Understanding reached with Israel on long-term funding for military assistance to Israel, including missile defense.

Israel's missile defense system is made up of four operational layers: Iron Dome (short-range), David's Sling (medium-range), Arrow 2 (longer range), and now Arrow 3 (very long range). The U.S.-Israeli cooperation has resulted in a system that can, and has, countered numerous missile threats from state and non-state adversaries in Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, Iran, and elsewhere. This system provides Israel with the ability to protect lives at home and on the battlefield, keeping its citizens and soldiers out of harm's way.

Another area of critical importance to both the United States and Israel is in the field of UAS and, perhaps as importantly, counter-UAS. Iran and its proxies' increased use and sales of UAS only heighten the importance of these systems. The collaborative defense program has created an important flow of data to support U.S. service members in theater, U.S. missile defense technology, and our strategic ally, Israel. Additionally, the programs support critical elements of the industrial base and important jobs in the United States through co-development and co-production agreements.

For FY 2024, in addition to ballistic missile defense, \$500 million will continue critical work

on research, development and test activities to counter hostile unmanned aerial systems. Together, these programs confront the compelling challenges facing both Israel and the United States and represent the security-based and economic tenets of the enduring friendship of our nations. We look forward to working with you on these important programs.

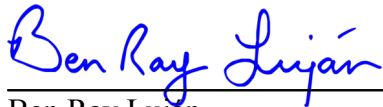
Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator




Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



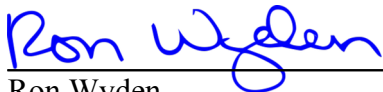
Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



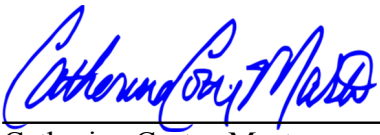
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



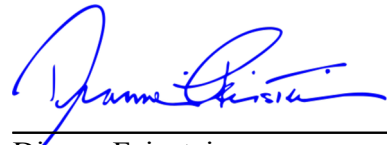
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



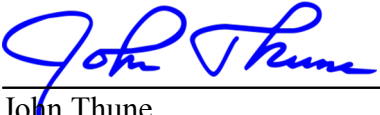
John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



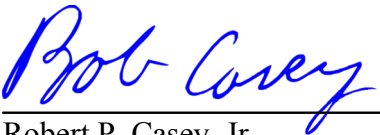
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



John Thune
United States Senator



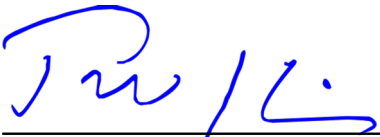
Rick Scott
United States Senator




Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



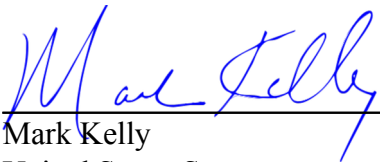
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator




Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



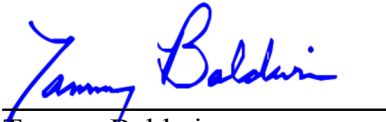
Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



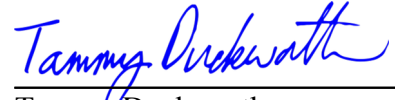
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Ted Budd
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator
Chairman, Select Committee
on Intelligence



JD Vance
United States Senator



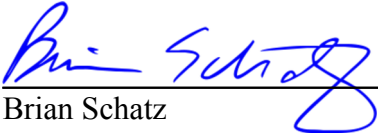
Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Roger Marshall M.D.
United States Senator



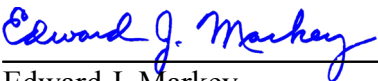
Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



John Fetterman
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



James Lankford
United States Senator