FY26 Supplemental Written Statement
SAC – 21 July 2026

Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, distinguished members of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, thank you for the opportunity to testify on President Trump's Fiscal Year 2026 supplemental funding request for the Department of War.

Today I am honored to testify alongside General Dan Caine, the 22nd Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Everyday General Caine embodies the warrior ethos that President Trump and I want to bring to our Joint warfighting force. His partnership has been invaluable in navigating the current threat environment and the multiple challenges that our Joint Force has faced.

I am also honored to testify alongside Secretary Brooke Rollins, the 33rd Secretary of Agriculture. She has been an incredible partner in establishing the importance that food security is national security and that our farmlands must be protected from foreign adversaries.

We live in a rapidly changing world that requires bold and swift action. The Trump administration is acting swiftly and decisively to remedy those issues: in our cities; at the border; in our Hemisphere; and in the Middle East. Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of War is executing generational changes that will determine the trajectory of the United States for the next 250 years.

We have built a different Department. The Pentagon is no longer run by bureaucrats. Instead, it is led by combat tested veterans, world class business leaders who are running the Department like a business, and tech titans who are bringing lethal innovation to the battlefield.

We are implementing long overdue changes to how the Department does business, focusing on efficient and effective use of resources in an accountable manner. We are changing how we buy things, how we develop systems, how we recruit people, and how we fight when called upon.

This is our last chance. If we don't make critical investments in tech, computing, AI, and space, our adversaries, who are already making these investments, will outpace us on an exponential path.

Our adversaries do not follow our multi-year budget cycle which programs fiscal requests years ahead of execution. We must adapt to be more flexible in the near term to meet emerging threats – necessitating this supplemental request. That is why the War Department requests this supplemental for fiscal year 2026. This request is an urgent, necessary injection of resources to address the immediate needs of the Department.

Without the supplemental funds, we will face critical shortfalls that threaten our ability to pay our Service members, replenish some of the equipment and munitions consumed during contingency operations, and sustain vital global operations without disruption.

Supplemental

The supplemental request serves two purposes: sustain our military readiness to meet this year's new demands; and accelerate critical capabilities to replace and augment those we have used in recent contingencies. Additionally, the Department is requesting targeted legislative authorities to enable the deployment of resources at the speed of relevance.

Sustaining Military Readiness

The Department is requesting **$21.3 billion** to address emergent requirements, maintain global contingency operations, and protect critical national security interests. This funding bolsters our ability to successfully meet new and current missions and provide resources needed.

- $15.1 billion for core operational costs, funding military pay, and operational shortfalls in training and readiness accounts and other mission-related costs.
- $2 billion to replace equipment lost or damaged during combat operations.
- $0.2 billion to establish a strategic hub in Diego Garcia.
- $1.7 billion to continue to grow our military personnel end strength, including medical staff, amidst record breaking recruitment numbers.
- $1.5 billion to stabilize mission critical fuel shortfalls.
- $0.8 billion for National Guard support for homeland defense and major events, like the World Cup.

Accelerating Critical Capabilities

The Department is requesting **$45.9 billion** in targeted funding to rapidly strengthen our military forces by expanding production lines, advancing high-priority development, and accelerating the delivery of critical capabilities and munitions to the Warfighter.

- $21.0 billion accelerates the acquisition of high-demand munitions through multi-year procurement, expands domestic production capacity, and fortifies supply chain resilience to sustain high-intensity operations of high-demand munitions (MAC, Solid Rocket Motors, JDAM-LR, Hypersonics, and LCCM-GL).
- $13.3 billion to advance essential operational and security support for the joint force to deploy and sustain its combat power. This funding supports key priorities, such as JIATF-401 for National Capital Region support and classified force protection.
- $11.6 billion to build digital and battlefield dominance through targeted investments in drones, space-based target tracking and resilient satellite networks, advanced computing, joint cyber defenses, and survivability enhancements and MQ-9 platforms.

Legislative Authorities

Once funds are appropriated to the Department, we need to promptly execute them. That is why we are requesting targeted legislative authorities: transfer authority to prioritize our greatest needs and opportunities; multi-year procurement for weapons systems; new start authorities; rescind and reappropriate funds for our directed energy program; and authorization for intelligence activities.

Transfer Authority for the Supplemental Request
The Department is requesting additional transfer authority of $6 billion to provide greater flexibility and agility in resourcing amid a rapidly evolving environment. This reprogramming authority would enable the Department to transfer funds among the munitions as contracts are awarded and the acquisition timeline is more defined.

Multi-Year Procurement (MYP) of additional Weapons Systems
Request MYP authority to achieve cost savings, enhance industrial base stability, and secure predictable production rates for weapons systems. Without this general provision, the Department cannot enter into MYP agreements in FY 2026 for these numerous systems. This request accelerates the MYP authorities included in the Department's FY 2027 submission, allowing the Department the opportunity to lock in pricing and stabilize production lines for a broad portfolio of mature, high-demand systems sooner than the regular budget cycle allows.

New Start Authority
Provides required new-start authority for the Department to pursue initiatives with new entrants and emerging capabilities needed to respond to urgent operational needs. The Department is requesting this authority to accelerate development and procurement activities associated with proposed investments in hypersonic capabilities like Blackbeard and Affordable Mass Low Cost Containerized Weapons (LCCM) like Grey Wind.

Extended Availability for Directed Energy Funding
Proposes to rescind and reappropriate $1.2 billion in funding for Israel's Iron Beam Directed Energy procurement. Public Law 118-50, "*An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes",* included $1.2 billion for cooperative directed energy with Israel, which expires on September 30, 2026.

However, the Iron Beam funds may not be obligated by September 2026 as discussions continue with Israel. The Department requires more time, which this proposal will provide to support this program and enable broader U.S. homeland defense efforts to combat adversary aerial threats. Collaboration with Israel on its missile defenses is ongoing, including directed energy research and development efforts with the Missile Defense Agency and OUSW (Research and Engineering).

Authorization for Intelligence Activities
Funds appropriated by this Act for intelligence or intelligence-related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by Congress for the purposes of section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

Conclusion

Despite being extremely important for the fiscal health of our military in fiscal year 2026, the supplemental funding request is not a substitute for the President's full $1.5 trillion base budget request. Long-term strategic dominance cannot be funded through piecemeal supplementals.

Collectively, the budget proposals submitted under President Trump follow a simple logic: the military requires a generational investment to deliver on “Peace Through Strength”. And the President’s FY 2027, $1.5 trillion budget request provides the opportunity to fundamentally shift the entire military acquisition paradigm to create a new Golden Age of National Defense.
I respect your job of overseeing how the Department allocates taxpayer dollars and we are committed to being accountable and transparent to the American people. It is a big part of the reason why passing an audit is high on my priority list. We will ensure full accountability to Congress and the American taxpayer.

Rest assured, every dollar appropriated to the Department of War will be focused on building the lethality of our Joint Force and reinforcing “Peace Through Strength”. As I have stated before, a military that does not have the critical resources it requires is the gravest threat to our national security.

The Senate must act swiftly to pass the $67B supplemental to maintain current operational momentum against cartels, secure the border, and replenish critical munitions.

We owe safety, freedom, and prosperity to the American people – and we will deliver. We will achieve “Peace Through Strength” – which is what the American people voted for, and what President Trump demands.

I look forward to working with this committee to secure these funds and getting them to our American patriots and Service members who work every day to keep our great Republic safe, secure, and thriving for generations to come.