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Opening Statement (As Prepared)
Chairman Donald Norcross
Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces:
*"Full Committee Markup of H.R. 7900 — National
Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023"*
June 22, 2022

Click [here](#) to view the hearing.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Tactical Air and Land Forces subcommittee mark now before the members of the full Committee is the result of hard work and diligent oversight conducted by the Members of the subcommittee and our staffs. I especially want to thank our Ranking Member, Mrs. Hartzler, and her staff for their support in building this strong and bipartisan mark.

Mr. Chairman, this subcommittee has built what we believe is a thoughtful, comprehensive, and bipartisan markup package to address the current and future modernization requirements of our forces. We have also done our best to address the many priorities that our committee Members support within the Subcommittee's jurisdiction.

With that in mind, our subcommittee's mark has carefully reviewed the budget request and makes recommendations on how best to equip and modernize our military. Additionally, we recommend action that ensures adequate oversight and accountability for our nation's most expensive and complex weapon systems.

To inform our markup today, the subcommittee has focused throughout the year on:

- Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps tactical strike-fighter aircraft programs to reduce operational risk, address aircraft performance deficiencies, and support the capability and capacity needed to meet current and future requirements.
- Continued attention to the Department's manned and unmanned intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance aircraft and how to meet Combatant Command

requirements for these systems.

- Continued oversight of the Army's ambitious modernization strategy and the Marine Corps' new force design with its supporting modernization priorities.
- Noteworthy this year is that we reinforce the subcommittee's real progress in oversight and support for modernization and safety in the nation's conventional ammunition industrial base — an area of particular emphasis for Ranking Member Hartzler and me.

Of note, an issue of great concern this year is the impact of inflation on the buying power of the military across their readiness and modernization programs. While the Department has built its request based on years of experience with financial turbulence, this year is a unique challenge.

But despite the challenges, Mr. Chairman, the recommendations included in this mark strengthen our land and air forces and reduce risk in our defense industrial base.

Finally, I want to thank our staff for their hard work:

- Committee PSM's Bill Sutey, Heath Bope, Carla Zeppieri, Liz Griffin, Kelly Repair, and our Clerk, Payson Ruhl.
- And from my office staff Legislative Director Katie Lee, MLA Lucy Perkins, and Defense Fellow Kevin Seger.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I urge support for this mark and I yield back.

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