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Opening Statement (As Prepared)
Chairman Jim Langevin
Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies and
Information Systems:
*"Markup of H.R. 7900 - National Defense Authorization
Act for Fiscal Year 2023"*
June 8, 2022

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We have before us an excellent mark that reflects the inputs and hard work of each of the members of this subcommittee. I particularly want to thank Ranking Member Banks, who has been a fantastic partner throughout this process. It's not that the process this year has been bipartisan – it has been nonpartisan – and that is a great credit to all of our members.

I also want to thank our superb subcommittee staff:

- Michael Hermann, Staff Lead for the subcommittee
- Sarah Moxley, Minority Staff Lead
- Josh Stiefel, Troy Nienberg, and Laura Rauch, Professional Staff Members
- Jenn Beddor, GAO Detailee,
- Payson Ruhl, Clerk

This mark reflects the balanced priorities of this subcommittee. It does the hard work of continued and detailed oversight of the Department of Defense; it provides support, guidance and, where necessary, corrections to ongoing programs; and it moves the ball forward aggressively in key technology areas. It empowers and encourages innovation across the Department, but it also shores up the key areas of research and development, as well as test and evaluation, that are all too easy to take for granted.

I do want to highlight a few items in particular. This mark contains provisions that build on previous years' efforts to advance biotechnology, including the creation of a new class of biomanufacturing capabilities and facilities, which provide a crucial capability to transition products successfully proven in the lab to commercial scales. It directs, for the first time, an independent assessment of the military's software and information technology to determine the cost that poorly performing software and information technology systems are imposing in lost working hours and the associated time and money. It encourages the Department to anticipate the revolutionary potential of quantum computing by creating a quantum computer strategy and identifying plans to use quantum computer testbeds in the near future. It encourages support for patentable inventions that occur outside the defense laboratory ecosystem, supporting innovation efforts at the tactical edge. And it provides for

a comprehensive examination of the sufficiency of current and planned test and evaluation resources to meet the demands of major defense programs.

I am proud of these provisions and the hard work they represent from the members of this subcommittee. But I will admit that it is a bittersweet moment for me. This will be my final NDAA as the Chairman of the Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems Subcommittee before my retirement at the end of this Congress. It has been an honor for me to serve as both the Chairman and Ranking Member of this subcommittee and its previous incarnations, dating all the way back to when I became Ranking Member of the Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee in 2011.

It's incredible to me to look back at where we were then – and especially where we were in 2001, my first year in Congress – to where we are now.

The 2001 NDAA did not even mention the words cyber or internet – this year, for the third year, there is an entire title of the NDAA devoted to cyberspace-related matters. Four years ago, CYBERCOM stood up as a Unified Combatant Command. Last year, through the hard work of many members on this subcommittee and across the Congress, we created the Office of the National Cyber Director. This subcommittee has supported key research and development efforts, including those at DARPA that led directly to the mRNA technology contained in the COVID-19 vaccines. We have implemented recommendations from the Cyberspace Solarium Commission and the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence. This subcommittee's steadfast support for groundbreaking technologies, and willingness to accept risk and push for transformational change, has led us to where we are today in fields like hypersonics, quantum, autonomy, and artificial intelligence.

I'm particularly proud of how far we've come in the field of directed energy, once derided as always being five years away, but now finally deployed operationally in defense of our men and women in uniform. That is what this subcommittee can and must do. It is the hopeful subcommittee, looking to the promise of the future, but with the constant responsibility of ensuring that no future American soldier, sailor, airman, marine, or guardian ever has to enter a fair fight. It has been my privilege to take my turn at the helm. But before I pass it to my successor, I look forward to getting this year's bill – and the CITI provisions that reflect all of our hard work – across the finish line. That effort begins in earnest today.

The Chair will now recognize Mr. Banks, the Ranking Member on the subcommittee, for any opening comments he would like to make.

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