Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

May 30, 2025

The Honorable Secretary Pete Hegseth Secretary of the Defense 1000 Defense Pentagon 101 Army Pentagon Washington, DC 20310-0101

Dear Secretary Hegseth,

As Congress works to help President Trump's vision of peace through strength, it is critical that we place emphasis on our nation's maintenance and repair depots that directly support the nation's soldiers, sailors, and airmen. For this reason, we ask that the Department of Defense continue the operations of the Red River Army Depot at its full operational capacity, and to look for new opportunities to expand mission critical operations.

Red River Army Depot (RRAD) is a pivotal facility in the Army's organic industrial base and within the United States' defense infrastructure at large. It spans 15,375 acres and houses over 1,400 buildings, providing more than 8 million square feet of industrial space dedicated to the sustainment of ground combat and tactical systems. As the Army's Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for Tactical Wheeled Vehicles, RRAD specializes in the repair and remanufacture of a wide array of military vehicles, including the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle, High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV), and Bradley Fighting Vehicle System. Beyond supporting the Army, RRAD extends its capabilities to the Marine Corps, Air Force, and Navy, ensuring comprehensive inter-service support. With a workforce of approximately 3,500 employees, RRAD contributes significantly to military readiness and capacity.

The Trump Administration rightfully seeks to root out waste, fraud, and abuse and to create a military that is lethal, effective, and efficient with its resources. RRAD is a prime example of this needed efficiency as it repairs and maintains mission-critical vehicles for the military at significant savings over new commercial procurements. It saves taxpayer funds by utilizing assets that would be discarded if not repaired by the depot. Additionally, maintenance and repair depots are funded solely through revenue from their customers, meaning RRAD is self-sufficient. Its funding depends on the workload it is awarded by military units and commercial opportunities. RRAD utilizes a lean workforce, which according to statute, is directly tied to its workload, to fulfill the requests of the U.S. military and commercial partners. RRAD does not

¹ 10 U.S.C. §2472 ("The civilian employees of the Department of Defense, including the civilian employees of the military departments and the Defense Agencies, who perform, or are involved in the performance of, depot-level maintenance and repair workloads may not be managed on the basis of any constraint or limitation in terms of man years, end strength, full-time equivalent positions, or maximum number of employees.

waste taxpayer dollars; it maximizes their impact to make our military more lethal and effective in combat.

In cases of increased military activities abroad, RRAD can and has quickly increase its production to meet the weapons and equipment needs of the military. The depot has proven their ability to surge operations to support prior combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and has been tasked to support allies in both Israel and Ukraine. Given its reliability and potential for expanded capabilities, a decrease in the depot's operations is not in the interest of the United States as RRAD possesses extensive expertise and is flexible to produce products beyond vehicle refurbishment.

We thank you for your commitment to the defense of our nation and urge you not to decrease the operations of the Red River Army Depot. We look forward to working with you and your team on these ongoing discussions that will improve readiness and affirm the President's vision of peace through strength while utilizing the Army's maintenance and repair depots.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Moran

Member of Congress

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Brian Babin

Member of Congress

Keith Self

Member of Congress

Pat Fallon

Member of Congress

Jake Elzey

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Pete Sessions Member of Congress

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Monica De La Cruz Member of Congress

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