

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0552

March 25, 2015

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Chairman  
Defense Subcommittee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Visclosky  
Ranking Member  
Defense Subcommittee  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Visclosky,

We are writing to encourage the committee to support the President's funding level for the Army Program of Record for Acoustic Hailing Devices.

The acoustic hailing device (AHD) is a technology that allows for mass communication despite vast distances, ambient noise, or obstructions. Traditional loud speaker technologies can result in degraded sound that is often difficult to hear. AHDs can be heard at vast distances, through walls, windows, and doors and can be heard over ambient noise such as engines, rotor blades, and other items that currently prevent mass communication using traditional methods.

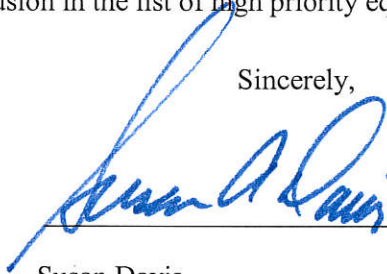
AHDs are a Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS), dual-use, non-lethal technology that supports the National Guard overseas and domestic mission. AHDs significantly enhance the Guard's ability to perform its Defense Support to Civilian Authorities (DSCA), Homeland Defense (HD), and Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) missions. For example, the Guard used AHDs to communicate with survivors during emergency response operations including Hurricane Katrina (2005) and the Colorado flood relief (2013). AHDs have also been used in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan to communicate with the civilian populace.

We acknowledge the difficult budget constraints you are working within and appreciate your consideration of the AHDs inclusion in the list of high priority equipment in the National Guard Reserve Account.

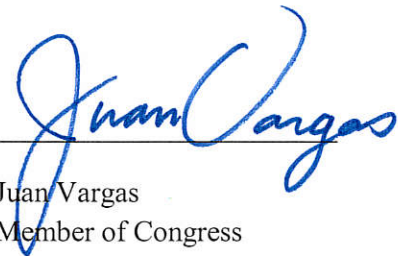
Sincerely,



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Susan Davis  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress