

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 21, 2025

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
H-405, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
H-405, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As you begin debate on the Fiscal Year 2026 Department of Defense Appropriations Act, we urge you to consider additional funding for the Army's Light Tactical Vehicle modernization strategy. The Army's Light Tactical Vehicle fleet consists primarily of two vehicle platforms: The High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) and the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV). Continuous improvement of the HMMWV and JLTV platforms are instrumental in ensuring Army and Marine Corps readiness and mission success on the battlefields of today and tomorrow.

The HMMWV has been the dependable and resilient light tactical vehicle platform for the Army since 1985. The vehicle is a byproduct of decades of innovation, battlefield lessons learned and technology insertions. The HMMWV of today is playing a vital role in its countless missions at home and abroad for U.S. forces and our allies. HMMWV is not just critical to the Active Component. The Army National Guard and Army Reserve depend on the HMMWV to conduct every mission they are called on to perform. As evidence of the need, more than 25 state Adjutants Generals have written Congress in support of additional HMMWV funding this year. Unfortunately, the HMMWV fleets in the Guard and Reserve consist of outdated variants that, in some cases, are older than their drivers. Without continued congressional support for modern HMMWVs, the current state of the Reserve Component LTV fleet would degrade readiness.

In March 2024, the Army sent Congress its Light Tactical Vehicle Acquisition Plan and Investment Plan that confirmed the Army's LTV fleet requirement beyond 2050 is 105,853 vehicles. After the Army meets its JLTV requirement of 49,099 vehicles, the Army will require 56,754 modernized HMMWVs. Some recent Army force structure decisions have reduced the HMMWV requirement, but the need remains well above 50,000 modernized HMMWVs. Simply put, the average age of the HMMWV fleet will be 20 years and the oldest trucks in the fleet will be 40 years old by 2030.

To sustain the HMMWVs economic useful life and support total Army modernization, the Army needs to resource a production rate of 2,500 HMMWVs per year. The modernized HMMWV provides the Army with the newest safety enhancements and technologies to support and protect the warfighter including the same antilock brake systems being retrofitted to trucks today. The Army must have additional funding in fiscal year 2026 to sustain a production rate of 2,500 new modernized HMMWVs per year to maintain readiness in the Active and Reserve Component. Based on its current budget, the Army is woefully underfunding HMMWV procurement. Your leadership is critical to ensure the Army and Marine Corps Light Tactical Vehicle strategy is properly resourced in fiscal year 2026.

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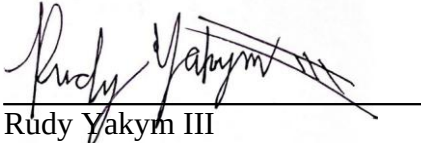
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The JLTV features greater payload, blast protection, and armoring capability due to its weight and size relative to the lighter, more mobile HMMWV. The Army's stated objective is to procure 49,099 JLTVs for its ITV fleet over the life of the program. The JLTV A2 is now in production and features more than 250 enhancements to the original JLTV which provides greater mobility, reliability and technological capabilities. Sufficient funding is needed in fiscal year 2026 to ensure the JLTV A2 is fielded to units on schedule and is consistent with Army and Marine Corps readiness requirements.

The Department of Defense relies on the U.S. light tactical vehicle manufacturer, AM General, which employs more than 1,100 people at major facilities in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. Additionally, AM General has a strong supplier base that stretches across 43 states. Low funding for this program unnecessarily jeopardizes the HMMWV supplier base and could cause smaller companies to exit the HMMWV business. The time associated with qualifying a new supplier is a minimum of 6-8 months, creating a substantial risk in meeting customer requirements for new vehicles. Therefore, it is critical that we maintain your support for balanced funding of the Army's LTV modernization strategy as you begin consideration of the Fiscal Year 2026 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of this request.

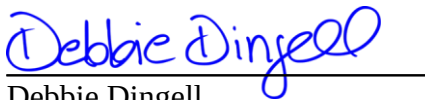
Sincerely,



Rudy Yakym III
Member of Congress



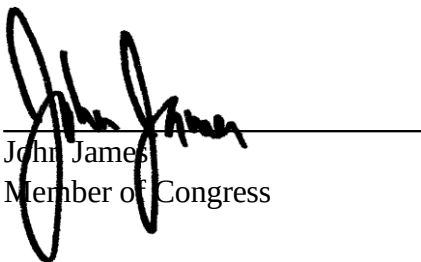
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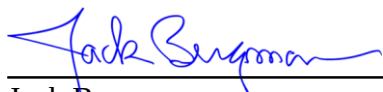
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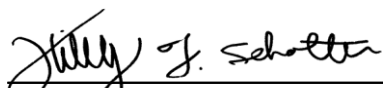
Mark B. Messmer
Member of Congress



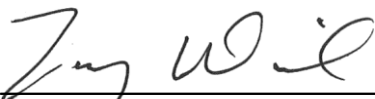
Warren Davidson
Member of Congress



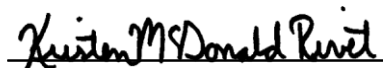
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



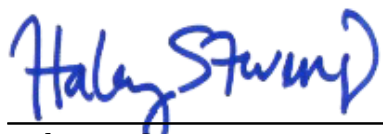
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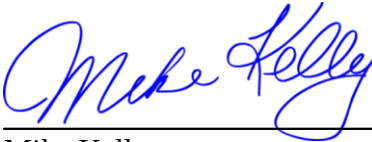
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