

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
H-405 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
House Committee on Appropriations
H-405 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman McCollum and Ranking Member Calvert,

We are writing to respectfully request \$35 million for the peer-reviewed orthopedic research program (PRORP) in the FY 2023 Defense Appropriations legislation. Peer-reviewed orthopedic research has been funded through PRORP since FY 2009 and before that the Orthopedic Extremity Trauma Research Program (OETRP) from FY 2006 – FY 2009.

PRORP is one of the most successful Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRPs) housed under the Department of Defense (DOD). It is a competitive grant program that funds focused basic and clinical research pertaining to extremity war injuries through direct grants to research institutions. More than 15,000 patients have been enrolled in studies funded by this program to date. Results will lead to major improvements in surgeons' abilities to care for these devastating injuries.

The program received an initial \$114 million investment in FY 2009, with funding stable at \$30 million since FY 2012. The initial higher investment levels allowed for development of a consortium of centers engaged in this research and a methods center to ensure that rigorous scientific design and study principles have been employed throughout. We are requesting an increase to \$35 million in order to maintain stable funding for the consortium infrastructure and to ensure that studies have the greatest chance of achieving success.

Over half of all combat injuries sustained during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) involved extremity injuries and orthopedic-specific conditions secondary to battle injury. In addition, extremity injuries accounted for the greatest proportion of medical resource utilization and caused the greatest number of disabled military personnel, accounting for 65% of total inpatient resource spending and 64% of projected disability costs.

We are hopeful that the Subcommittee will provide \$35 million in the FY 2023 Defense Appropriations legislation to ensure this important work can continue to assist those who have made tremendous sacrifices while defending the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



SETH MOULTON
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Gregorio Kilili Camacho
Sablan
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



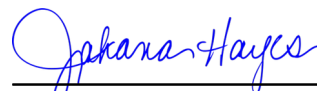
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James R. Langevin
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Rick Larsen
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Jahana Hayes
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Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
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Alan Lowenthal
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Lloyd Doggett
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Ted W. Lieu
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Bill Posey
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Mike Gallagher
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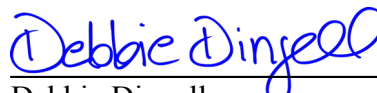
Dean Phillips
Member of Congress



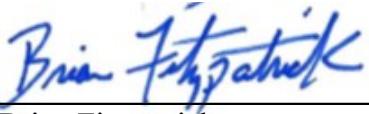
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



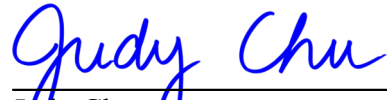
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



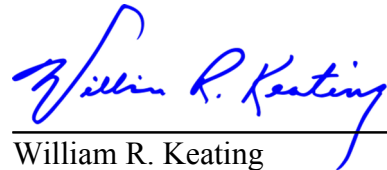
Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



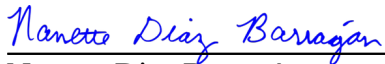
Paul D. Tonko
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.
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William R. Keating
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Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



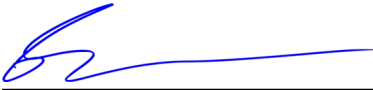
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



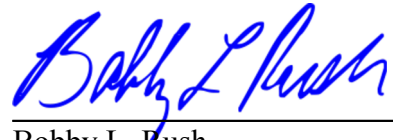
Gregory W. Meeks
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Bob Good
Member of Congress



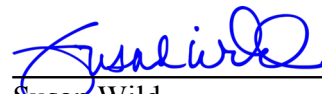
Brian J. Mast
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Bobby L. Rush
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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Susan Wild
Member of Congress



John Joyce, M.D.
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Sean Patrick Maloney
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Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress



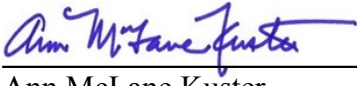
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



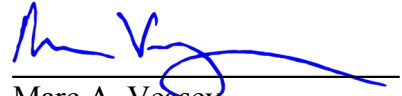
Ruben Gallego
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