

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 27, 2025

The Honorable Pete Hegseth  
U.S. Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Department of Defense  
1400 Defense Pentagon,  
Washington, DC 20301

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Secretary Hegseth and Secretary Noem:

We write to inquire with the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) about the current state of drone attack countermeasures for our military installations, government buildings, embassies, and consulates, both domestic and abroad.

The ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East have demonstrated that large-scale, highly coordinated mass-drone attacks can be highly effective if the defender lacks adequate counter-drone defenses.

Since the beginning of the Russo-Ukraine war, drones have played a decisive role in deterring Russian armored and infantry assaults. With the relatively cheap cost to produce, maintain, and operate these systems, Ukraine can field drones to strike targets deep in occupied territories and Russian soil. The Russian Federation quickly adopted drone weaponry and surveillance equipment in response.

Drone technology has spread to other conflicts, including Israel's confrontations with Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis. On multiple occasions, Iran had used a tiered attack against Israel using drones alongside ballistic, hypersonic, and cruise missiles.

Ukraine's Operation Spider's Web and Israel's Operation Rising Lion have demonstrated the devastating threat of a large-scale drone attack upon military installations and critical infrastructure far beyond one's own borders. These operations are complemented by deep infiltration operations among each country's respective intelligence services. Not only that, but the cost asymmetry to produce and operate drones against the damage they can cause is incredibly valuable for this guerilla tactic.

With the former administration's open border policies and most drones being purchased from *DJI*, a Chinese Communist Party drone company, it is becoming increasingly likely that we could see a similar attack upon our country that could threaten our service members and cripple our lethality if we are not prepared.

Since 9/11, our nation has not suffered a major coordinated attack on our own soil. While the government has done good work in preventing an attack like 9/11 from happening again, we want to ensure that we are preparing for a new paradigm in which relatively cheap drones can quickly and effectively wipe out core military and government infrastructure.

While American threat projection globally is strong among all the branches of the military, we need to be prepared for a new paradigm of covert, but potentially disastrous, threats to our core military interests, including our nuclear triad in the homeland.

Following the successful U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities at Fordo, Natanz, and Isfahan, it is imperative that we ensure the readiness and security of our military bases, critical infrastructure, and overseas diplomatic installations. A potential Iranian response could involve direct attacks here at home or abroad. We must take all necessary measures to safeguard our service members and defend our interests at this time.

Any information you can provide in response to the following questions would be helpful:

1. What is the status of American countermeasures to deter and counter mass drone attacks against military installations, government facilities (including Washington D.C.), and critical infrastructure like roads, bridges, and manufacturing sites?
  - a. If defenses are currently inadequate to deter or repel drone attacks similar to those referenced above, what steps are being taken to address them, and what is the timeline for implementation?
2. Is the DOD or DHS aware of or actively working to deter potential threats posed by foreign-owned land near critical military and infrastructure sites in the United States that could be a launching point for a mass drone attack like we saw in Russia by Ukrainian forces?
3. Is there a concern of any sort of weaponized drone buildup already happening in the United States from drones that may have been smuggled in due to the former administration's open border policies?
4. Will counter-drone technology be considered for President Trump's Golden Dome air defense project?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

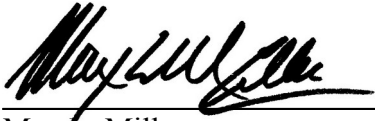
Sincerely,



Mike Carey  
Member of Congress



Beth Van Duyne  
Member of Congress



Max L. Miller  
Member of Congress



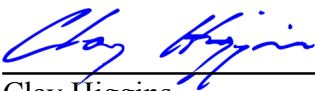
Sheri Biggs  
Member of Congress



Jim Jordan  
Member of Congress



Mike Flood  
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress



Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



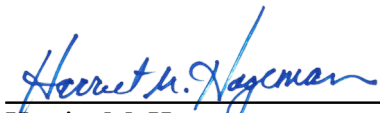
August Pfluger  
Member of Congress



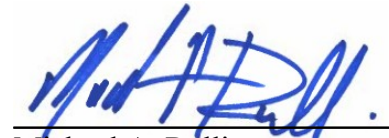
Nicholas J. Begich III  
Congressman for All Alaska



John J. McGuire III  
Member of Congress



Harriet M. Hageman  
Member of Congress



Michael A. Rulli  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress



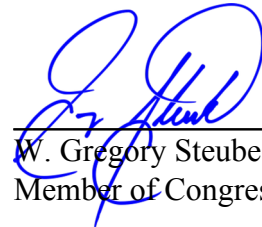
Aaron Bean  
Member of Congress



Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



French Hill  
Member of Congress



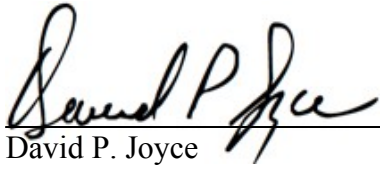
W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud  
Member of Congress



Brad Finstad  
Member of Congress

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David P. Joyce  
Member of Congress

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Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Troy Downing", written over a horizontal line.

Troy Downing  
Member of Congress