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United States Senate

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

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JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE

June 28, 2018

The Honorable John McCain Chairman Senate Committee on Armed Services SR-228 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCain,

We are writing to request that as you enter into conference deliberations on the FY 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that the Senate recede to the House and include funding in the final NDAA measure for two Military Construction projects that are of critical importance for the State of Louisiana.

Under Section 4601 of H.R. 5515, the House National Defense Authorization Act of 2019, \$12,250,000 was included under the Air Force Military Construction budget for Barksdale AFB to construct an Entrance Road and Gate Complex. In addition, there was \$24,000,000 included under the Air National Guard's Military Construction budget for the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Belle Chasse, LA to enable NORTHCOM to construct alert facilities. Unfortunately, the Senate was not able to provide additional funding for these two worthwhile projects in S.2987, the Senate-passed NDAA bill. Importantly, both of these projects were included in their military branch's respective FY 2019 Unfunded Requirements List (UFR) and these federal dollars are essential in leveraging additional State and local funding for these specific projects. Therefore, we strongly urge the Committee to include funding for these two Louisiana Military Construction projects in the final version of the FY 2019 National Defense Authorization Act.

Sincerely,

Bill Cassidy, M.D. United States Senator

CC: Mac Thornberry

Cassidy, M.D.

United States Senator