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## COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-6035

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

April 27, 2018

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JENNIFER M. STEWART, STAFF DIRECTOR

Dear Members of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee:

In the wake of increasing aviation mishaps, we believe further subcommittee action is required to ensure we maintain appropriate oversight of the military's response to these often-tragic events.

We believe there is value in conducting oversight of the military's investigative processes that follow these aviation mishaps. We are concerned that the Department of Defense's investigations have yet to identify the all systemic problems, patterns, and root causes of these aircraft incidents. As a subcommittee, we must ensure the Department's investigatory procedures are sufficient to expose causality in this ongoing crisis.

For the last several years, our subcommittee has engaged on several issues that are related to aviation readiness and modernization. One such issue has been ensuring the Department adequately addresses the physiological episodes our pilots have experienced in-flight. We have also, through the National Defense Authorization Act, authorized additional procurement, operation, and maintenance funding to help address our aviation readiness crisis. However, we judge that our oversight responsibilities must now address the Department's investigative procedures and processes.

We are interested in gaining a better understanding of your concerns and request your feedback regarding this critical issue in advance of a future subcommittee hearing/briefing on the Department's aviation mishap investigative processes. Please work through the subcommittee staff so that your concerns and interests may be considered as we prepare to review this critical issue.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Tactical Air and  
Land Forces



Niki Tsongas  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Tactical Air and  
Land Forces