



April 28, 2022

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee Defense  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2256 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Defense  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2205 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Calvert:

As you begin crafting the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Defense Appropriations bill, I respectfully request the Committee to prioritize the necessary resources for U.S.-Israel missile defense programs.

The U.S.-Israel missile defense programs include the Iron Dome system, David's Sling, and the Arrow Weapon System, all of which are essential to the safety and security of Israel, our closest ally in the Middle East. Prioritizing and ensuring robust funding for these programs is necessary to address the evolving threats posed by Israeli adversaries, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran. Given the uncertainty of current negotiations with Iran, we must ensure our closest ally, Israel, can defend itself.

These programs yield a tremendous return on investment for the United States in the form of economic, technological, and national security that extend well beyond the Middle East. Information sharing and live-fire exercises between the United States and Israel provide important knowledge and readiness for our service-members. Furthermore, these programs are highly effective.

For example, the Iron Dome intercepted more than 4,000 rockets fired by terrorists with a success rate of over 90%. In May 2021, alone, the Iron Dome intercepted nearly 2,000 Hamas rockets over an 11-day period, saving countless lives. The strength of the Iron Dome has been so significant that the U.S. Army procured two batteries and recently tested the system in Guam.

During these challenging budgetary times, we can and must prioritize federal funding for programs where federal involvement can have the greatest impact on the safety and security of the American people, our troops, and our allies. These highly advanced missile defense systems have consistently been a key factor in Israel's self-defense, and further technological and operational advancements will be crucial moving forward.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress