



August 31, 2021

The Honorable Robert J. Wittman
Member
House Armed Services Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Markup of FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act

Dear Representative Wittman:

On behalf of Virginia's credit unions, I am writing to you once again to express our interest in preserving DoD's discretionary authority to allow credit unions to use land and space on military bases at a nominal rate. Defense credit unions continue to serve servicemembers in Virginia and our nation exceptionally well. We ask that the Committee oppose any provision in the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act that would require DoD to treat banks the same as credit unions when it comes to leases.

Credit unions fulfill a vital role in the military community. We focus on the servicemember whether it be by opening a checking account or granting a low-interest loan. Perhaps just as importantly through our on-base presence, we help protect against predatory lenders outside the gate.

Congress gave the DoD discretionary authority to allow credit unions to use space on military bases at a nominal rate because of their focus and dedication to the servicemember over profit. Other financial institutions cannot match the credit union difference. Further, banks already can obtain leases at nominal cost under the Military Leasing Act, 10 USC §2667. We respectfully ask that the House Armed Service Committee reject the inclusion bank "parity" in the NDAA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carrie R. Hunt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carrie R. Hunt

President/CEO