

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2016

Lieutenant General L. Scott Rice
Director
Air National Guard
1000 Air Force Pentagon
4E126
Washington, DC 20330-1000

Lt. General Rice:

Thank you for your continued partnership in working to support the modernization of our C-130H fleets with new Props, Engines, Cockpits, Wing Boxes and Defensive systems. However, these investments in equipment have not been matched with investments in the people and personnel that will test, develop, and train the C-130H fleet.

As you know, the 139th Airlift Wing in St. Joseph, Missouri provides critical, required training through its Weapon Instructor Course and Advance Airlift Tactics Training Center for all C-130Hs. However, with the active component divestiture of the C-130H, these critical, required functions have ended up being resourced and funded on a shoestring, non-programmed, non-steady-state basis, and without the required personnel. The fleet of H Models is not being resourced as it should in the annual budget and Program Objective Memorandum (POM) process for training and testing requirements.

Please update us on your plan to resolve this longstanding funding challenge between the Air National Guard and Air Mobility Command. Further, I ask you to give strong consideration to basing the C-130H test organization along with the advanced training missions at the 139th where it will provide our airmen and allies with the highest degree of training and readiness.

Thank you for your service and we look forward to working with you to resolve this longstanding issue. Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact Jack Ruddy of Congressman Graves' staff at Jack.Ruddy@mail.house.gov or 202-225-7041.

Sincerely,



Roy Blunt
United States Senator



Sam Graves
Member of Congress