

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 3, 2025

The Honorable Daniel Driscoll
Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

The Honorable Brent Ingraham
Assistant Secretary of the Army
Acquisition, Logistics and Technology
105 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Driscoll and Assistant Secretary Ingraham,

As members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, we are writing to share our support for the transition from Program Executive Officers (PEOs) to capability-centric Portfolio Acquisition Executives (PAEs) and encourage the continued use of Orlando, Florida for a PAE or Acquisition Program Executive (APE) headquarters.

Orlando, Florida has been the home to PEO Simulation Training and Instrumentation (STRI) for over 50 years and serves as the sole Army acquisitions headquarters within the state of Florida. It is an epicenter for Modeling, Simulation, and Training spanning full lifecycle support from next generation technology, test and training, operational support, to sustainment. The Army currently manages an approximately \$2.6 billion acquisition portfolio, over 300 programs, and 300,000 fielded systems that span the globe from this nucleus.

This region is a hub for foreign military sales (FMS) expertise, an increasingly in-demand skillset that expedites command and control system integration and generates exponential partnership possibilities on new technologies. Within Orlando, the Army manages over 350 FMS cases across 66 countries, a case value of \$2.9 billion, spanning Africa, Europe, the Indo-Pacific, and Southeast Asia. It even includes over \$600 million per year for counter-Iran and Middle East ally support.

The coupling of the National Center for Simulation (NCS) with PEO STRI in Orlando has brought about a \$11.6 billion economic impact and has driven over 30,000 high-wage jobs with an average salary above \$100,000. It's spawned a thriving ecosystem for large defense contractors from Lockheed Martin to Northrop Grumman, mid- to small-businesses, academia such as the University of Central Florida, non-traditional entities, and other military services.

The State of Florida has demonstrated exceptional support for the armed services and its members. For PEO STRI alone, the state has provided a \$150 million investment securing a 450,000 square foot office space at no cost to the Army. Florida-based headquarters additionally benefit from 21 neighboring active-duty installations for access to commissaries, exchanges, fitness centers, and medical care. The State also supports the third highest population of veterans within the U.S. thanks to well-deserved tax exemptions for veterans, free in-state college tuition benefits, relatively low cost of living, and easy access to Veteran Affairs healthcare.

As the Army crafts its vision for PAEs and the future of Army acquisitions, it is critical to ensure a breadth of locations are captured to maximize access to talent pools while also co-locating with critical military headquarters such as U.S. Southern Command in Doral, FL as well as U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command in Tampa, FL. Together, we ask your administration to reflect on the strategic importance that Orlando, Florida has brought to Army acquisitions today and hope you consider, within all applicable rules and regulations, the continued benefits that Orlando can bring to the Army.

Sincerely,



Mario R. Díaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Carlos A. Giménez
Member of Congress



Cory L. Mills
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Vern G. Buchanan
Member of Congress



Daniel A. Webster
Member of Congress



Brian J. Mast
Member of Congress



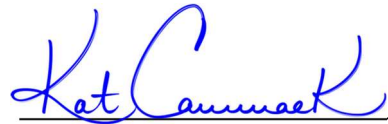
John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress



Darren M. Soto
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W. Gregory Steube
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Kat C. Cammack
Member of Congress



Byron L. Donalds
Member of Congress



C. Scott Franklin
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María E. Salazar
Member of Congress



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Aaron P. Bean
Member of Congress



Laurel M. Lee
Member of Congress



Mike Haridopolos
Member of Congress



Randy A. Fine
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Jesse Tolleson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
Acquisition, Logistics and Technology