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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TACTICAL AIR AND LAND  
FORCES

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,  
FOREST AND PUBLIC LANDS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

December 7, 2011

Honorable Carl Levin  
Chairman  
Senate Armed Services Committee  
SR-228, Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable John McCain  
Ranking Member  
Senate Armed Services Committee  
SR-228, Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Howard "Buck" McKeon  
Chairman  
House Armed Services Committee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510


Honorable Adam Smith  
Ranking Member  
House Armed Services Committee  
2120 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Levin and McKeon and Ranking Members McCain and Smith:

As a Member of the House Armed Services Committee, I urge you to omit from the conference report on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (NDAA) any provision that removes the MC-12W Liberty aircraft from the Air Force. Any such provision, such as the one included in the Senate version of the NDAA that would transfer the MC-12W to the Army, would directly contradict a joint-recommendation made by Air Force Secretary Donley and Army Secretary McHugh that the MC-12W remain within the Air Force. As the Secretaries point out in the enclosed letter, the MC-12W is a proven intelligence system that is relied upon daily to identify, track and locate terrorists, and that transferring the MC-12W would be disruptive to ongoing operations. Thus, ceasing to maintain the MC-12 within the Air Force would undermine intelligence collection and our national security.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your continued work to ensure a strong national defense.

Sincerely,

  
JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress