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December 11, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives

Dear House and Senate Leaders:

As we approach the end of a very difficult 2020, we, the leaders of the undersigned companies supporting government-wide operations, thank you for your action on behalf of our nation during the COVID-19 national emergency. The legislation to address the health and economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic that Congress has enacted this year has served as a critical lifeline to Americans during these challenging times.

We also thank you for enacting the continuing resolutions that are keeping federal agencies operating as you work on completing appropriations bills to fully fund the Federal government for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2021.

As you focus on completing your work on the appropriations bills and further COVID-19 relief efforts, we urge you to include an extension of the Section 3610 authority from the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136), as you have done in both Continuing Resolutions passed this year.

Section 3610 provides authority for agencies to cover from existing funds certain contractor costs and keep key personnel and skilled workers in a ready state during COVID-19. Because Congress provided

this authority in the CARES Act in March, we have been able to maintain thousands of critical employees who would be difficult to replace within the industrial base. This has been particularly crucial to many small businesses who cannot afford to keep their employees afloat when unable to access federal facilities. Extending these authorities, which are used by many federal agencies to maintain the capabilities and workforce necessary to meet mission needs and protect our national security and other vital programs, does not require any additional appropriation of funds.

Our companies support U.S. Government operations across the country in all fifty states and around the world, where access to facilities and remote work options continue to face uncertainties and frequent changes. As COVID-19 rates hit record levels that were unanticipated not only when the CARES Act was enacted but just weeks ago, agencies are shifting work plans, reducing hours, and taking other steps to ensure the health and safety of the workforce.

Therefore, on behalf of the tens of thousands of employees across the nation who are dedicated to supporting government operations, we urge you to include in any FY21 regular or supplemental appropriations bill, or any other available bill, a further government-wide extension of Section 3610 through September 30, 2021, the end of the fiscal year. As the attached letter indicates, there is widespread support across the industrial base to extend 3610 authorities, which will provide critical coverage during these difficult times.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this matter.

Yours respectfully,



Michael Canning
Government & Public Services Practice Leader
Vice Chairman, Principal
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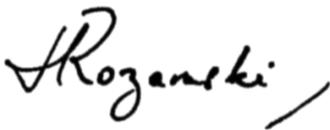
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President & Chief Executive Officer
Huntington Ingalls Industries



Kevin Phillips
Chief Executive Officer
ManTech



Horacio Rozanski
President & CEO
Booz Allen Hamilton



Rob Strain
President
Ball Aerospace



Lauren Weiner
Chief Executive Officer
WWC Global

CC: Chairpersons and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees
Members of the Bipartisan COVID-19 Working Group