

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 24, 2022

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Labor, Health and Human Services
and Education Appropriations
Subcommittee
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Ranking Member
Senate Labor, Health and Human Services
and Education Appropriations
Subcommittee
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray and Ranking Member Blunt:

We write to respectfully request that the Subcommittee include \$11.5 million in funding for the Military and Civilian Partnership for the Trauma Readiness Grant program in the FY23 Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations bill. As you know, this program was established by the Military Injury Surgical Systems Integrated Operationally Nationwide to Achieve ZERO Preventable Deaths Act or “MISSION ZERO Act”, which was authorized by the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2019. These grants provide funding to civilian trauma centers to train and incorporate military trauma care providers and teams into these critical care centers.

The MISSION ZERO Act stems from the June 2016 National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) report entitled, "*A National Trauma Care System: Integrating Military and Civilian Trauma Systems to Achieve Zero Preventable Deaths After Injury.*" This report outlines 11 recommendations necessary to secure a national trauma system and sets the goal of achieving zero preventable deaths. Recommendation number 11 of the NASEM report calls for the establishment of military-civilian trauma partnerships to help further reduce the number of preventable traumatic deaths.

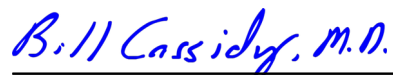
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention trauma is the leading cause of death for children and adults under age 44, killing more Americans than AIDS and stroke combined. We are convinced that the funding provided by the MISSION ZERO Act will allow us to continue to save lives, enhance trauma training for our military healthcare personnel and help trauma centers manage and recover from mandatory furloughs of surgeons, nurses and other staff that were a direct result of the COVID 19 pandemic.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of our request to fund MISSION Zero at the authorized level of \$11.5 million in fiscal year 2023. We believe this grant program will ensure that the medical workforce, both civilian and military, are prepared for future health emergencies at home and abroad.

Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



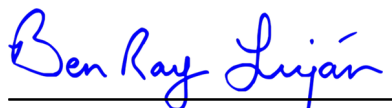
Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



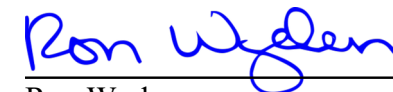
Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



Roger W. Marshall
Member of Congress