

## NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

1636 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20301-1636

2 0 NOV 2019

The Honorable Don Young United States House of Representatives 1329 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

Dear Ranking Member Young:

I am responding to your inquiry regarding the impact House Resolution H.R. 2546 will have on the U.S. Army National Guard's (ARNG) High-Altitude Aviation Training Site (HAATS) in Gypsum, Colorado.

HAATS is an Army Aviation school that provides graduate level flight training for mountain techniques and power management. The facility serves the entire Department of Defense (DoD) and our international partners. Aviators at HAATS learn skills that translate to both domestic and overseas operations which have resulted in countless lives saved.

ARNG acknowledges the provisions made for HAATS and Military Helicopter Overflights and Operations in section 3(e) included within the recent amendments to H.R. 2546. Wilderness areas are categorized as noise-sensitive areas (in accordance with FAA Advisory Circular 91-36D, the FAA Aeronautical Information Manual, and the Army Regulation 95-1). Noise sensitive areas requires aircraft to operate at a minimum of 2,000 feet above the surfaces level (ASL).

The provisions included in section 3(e) would help maintain our current mode of operations, negating additional costs which would otherwise be incurred due to longer travel times to the training areas, and avoiding a resultant reduction of the total number of aviators being able to complete the training in a given year.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact LTC Jonathan Grabill, Office of Legislative Liaison, at (571) 256-7821 or jonathan.h.grabill.mil@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

aniel R. Hokanson

Lieutenant General, U.S. Army Director, Army National Guard



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The Honorable Deb Haaland United States House of Representatives 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

Dear Chairwoman Haaland:

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Sincerely,

Daniel R. Hokanson

Lieutenant General, U.S. Army Director, Army National Guard