

United States Senate

SENATE CAUCUS ON
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 818-C
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 9, 2011

Senator Daniel Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye and Ranking Member Cochran:

As Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, we write to urge you to extend three important Department of Defense counternarcotics authorities in the upcoming Continuing Resolution.

As you are aware, the following Defense Department counternarcotics authorities expired at the end of the fiscal year:

1. **Section 1004 authority** which allows for certain types of counternarcotics training, transport of personnel, construction, maintenance of equipment, establishment and operation of training facilities and support for intelligence analysis and communications activities;
2. **Section 1021 authority** which allows the Defense Department to support a unified campaign against narcotics trafficking and activities by designated terrorist organizations in Colombia; and
3. **Section 1022 authority** which allows Defense Department joint task forces to provide support to law enforcement agencies conducting counter-terrorism activities.

These authorities are included in the pending National Defense Authorization Act, but they were not included in the most recent Continuing Resolution. Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Carl Levin has indicated to us that he supports the inclusion of these authorities in the upcoming Continuing Resolution.

In his October 19, 2011 testimony before the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counternarcotics and

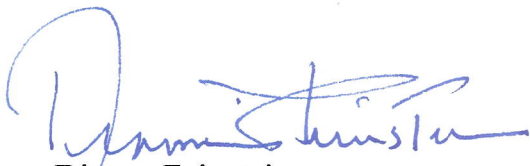
Global Threats William Wechsler said, "The lapse in authority has had a clear impact on key national security objectives and on diplomatic relations with key foreign partners."

As we stated in a previous letter, several Defense Department programs have been impacted by this lapse in Section 1004, 1021 and 1022 authority. According to the Department of Defense, the programs impacted include:

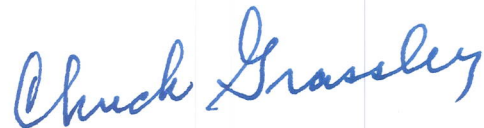
- "Stop work orders" have been issued for the repair and modification of 10 of the 20 MI-17 helicopters in Afghanistan used in support of Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) efforts;
- In Colombia, there have been "stop work orders" on 15 contracts that support the Colombian military in efforts against the FARC in the La Macarena region;
- In Mexico, Defense Department information sharing support to Mexico and to U.S. agencies with respect to Mexico will be reduced in scope;
- Some Special Operations Forces counter-narcoterrorism deployments for the first quarter of FY 2012 have been cancelled or delayed. These include deployments to Colombia, Honduras, Guatemala and Panama; and
- While detection and monitoring of narcotics will continue, aerial and ground reconnaissance support to countries looking for high value drug trafficking targets is suspended.

We believe that time is of the essence in restoring these authorities. We respectfully urge you to work with us to include the extension of these authorities in the upcoming Continuing Resolution. We look forward to working with you on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
Chairman
Senate Caucus on International
Narcotics Control



Charles Grassley
Co-Chairman
Senate Caucus on International
Narcotics Control