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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
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ASSISTANCE AND MEMORIAL AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4602

April 1, 2019

The Honorable José Serrano
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science
Committee on Appropriations
H-309 Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Serrano and Ranking Member Aderholt:

We urge you to allocate \$30 million in FY 2020 for NASA's CLARREO Pathfinder (CPF) mission, which will provide critically needed space-based observations that will be used to protect our military and coastal communities throughout the United States.

CPF is a technology demonstration mission that will provide levels of accuracy up to 10 times better than currently possible for measuring radiation from the Sun reflected by the Earth. This breakthrough technology will improve our climate and weather modeling abilities and collect data needed for maintaining and building infrastructure and military assets. By revolutionizing our understanding of solar radiation and its impacts on Earth systems, we will be able to better predict flooding and other damaging weather events. CPF will also ensure the U.S. maintains its lead in the space industry by developing measurement innovations that can be used by commercial satellites.

CPF represents a low-cost, high-science-value alternative to the full CLARREO (Climate Absolute Radiance and Refractivity Observatory) mission. The urgent need for CPF measurements was recognized by the National Academies of Science in the 2007 Earth Science Decadal Survey and again in the 2018 Decadal Survey with CPF included as part of the NASA program of record. CPF leverages a decade of work conducted at NASA's Langley Research Center in Virginia and Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, as well as the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics at the University of Colorado Boulder. This project has

proceeded on-budget and on-schedule, and the CPF is due to be mounted on the International Space Station in 2023.

By providing the data necessary to better understand changes in our climate system and protect against severe weather events before they occur, CPF has the potential to provide economic benefits that far outweigh the cost of the program. In order to maintain our national security, economic prosperity, and international competitive edge, we again urge the committee to provide full funding for the CPF mission. We thank you for considering this request and for your commitment to our space industry.

Sincerely,



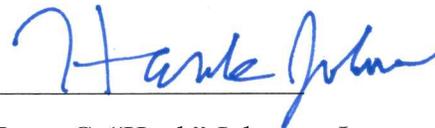
Elaine G. Luria
Member of Congress



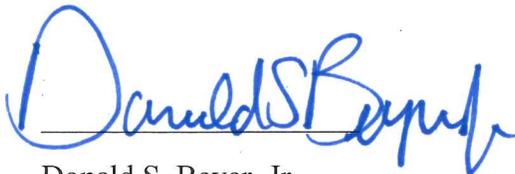
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



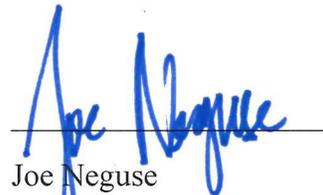
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