

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 18, 2025

General Steven S. Nordhaus  
Chief, National Guard Bureau  
1636 Defense Pentagon, STE 1E169  
Washington, DC 20301-0001

Dear General Nordhaus:

The undersigned members of the Indiana Congressional Delegation write to request clarity regarding the Army National Guard's plans to deliver six HH-60M Black Hawk helicopters to the Indiana National Guard's 38th Combat Aviation Brigade.

Approximately 900 Indiana Guardsmen are assigned to the 38th Combat Aviation Brigade, headquartered at the Shelbyville Army Aviation Support Facility. Since 2001, this unit has supported sixteen deployments, including missions in Iraq, Kuwait, and Bosnia. It is widely regarded as a premier aviation unit in Indiana and across the Midwest.

As you know, the Army National Guard recently eliminated a Black Hawk Aeromedical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) Platoon from the Indiana National Guard. That platoon, based in Gary, Indiana, consisted of three UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters and 27 personnel. The remaining six UH-60L aircraft are scheduled for divestment as part of additional force-structure changes.


The Indiana National Guard has advised us that six HH-60M aircraft were identified to replace the UH-60L models. However, the details of this replacement plan remain unclear, including the timing and sequencing of delivery. We are concerned that a staggered delivery over an extended period could introduce unnecessary cost, operational disruption, and uncertainty for Indiana's aviation enterprise.

This uncertainty also raises concerns about domestic operations. In 2024, four Indiana Guardsmen were awarded the Indiana Distinguished Service Cross—the state's highest award for valor—after rescuing 24 civilians during severe flooding. Those Guardsmen operated the same aircraft currently slated for divestment.

Ensuring the readiness of the 38th Combat Aviation Brigade to respond to both overseas missions and domestic emergencies is essential to its role in protecting Hoosiers and supporting communities in crisis. Achieving that readiness requires clear communication, coordinated planning, and predictable execution.

Accordingly, we respectfully request a comprehensive update on the National Guard Bureau's plans for the delivery of these HH-60M aircraft, including the anticipated delivery timeline for each helicopter. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



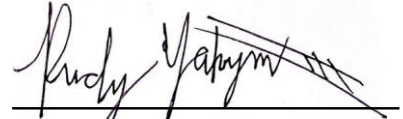
Jefferson Shreve  
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



Marlin A. Stutzman  
Member of Congress



Rudy Yakym III  
Member of Congress



Mark B. Messmer  
Member of Congress



James R. Baird  
Member of Congress



Erin Houchin  
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress



Andre Carson  
Member of Congress



Jim Banks  
United States Senator



Todd Young  
United States Senator

CC: Director, Army National Guard  
CC: Chief of Staff of the Army