

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 14, 2019

The Honorable Ryan D. McCarthy
Acting Secretary of the Army
400 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Dear Acting Secretary McCarthy:

We write to express our great concern regarding the cease and desist order the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued to the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) on July 15, 2019. Furthermore, we are concerned that the Army did not formally inform the Members of Congress who represent this vital institution, when it first occurred.

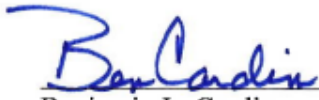
We are requesting the following detailed information about the USAMRIID situation:

1. What specific deficiencies led to the CDC shutting down USAMRIID's operations, and how long has USAMRIID been aware of those deficiencies?
2. Why didn't the Army formally notify Maryland's federal delegation when CDC issued the cease and desist order on July 15? Why did the Army delay the notification of other local government officials?
3. What is the impact to the occupational health safety and employment status of federal civilian and contract employees?
4. How does this situation impact USAMRIID's ability to meet its operational requirements, budget plan and funding, and support for national security efforts?
5. What specific steps is the Army taking to correct the deficiencies identified by the CDC and mitigate any risks to personnel, infrastructure, and the surrounding community?
6. What is the Army's plan and timeline to bring USAMRIID into full compliance with federal requirements and return to full operational capability?

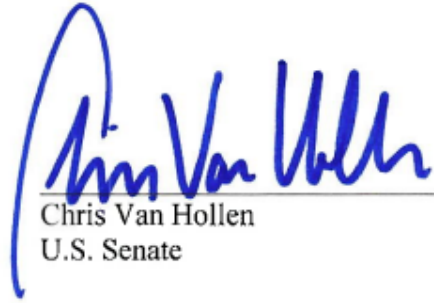
We understand and appreciate that Brigadier General Mike Talley, Commanding General for Medical Research and Development Command, Fort Detrick, is available for a future meeting with the Maryland Delegation. We would appreciate the Army providing an official written response to the questions outlined above prior to that meeting.

Thank you for your prompt attention and response to this matter. If you require any additional information regarding this request, please contact [REDACTED]

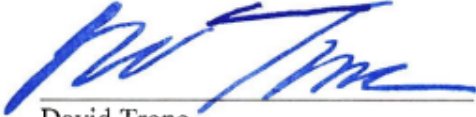
Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin
U.S. Senate



Chris Van Hollen
U.S. Senate



David Trone
U.S. House of Representatives