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# United States Senate

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May 7, 2018

Gene Dodardo  
Government Accountability Office  
441 G St., NW  
Washington, DC 20548

Mr. Dodardo:

The Army's new Futures Command initiative seeks to address perceived problems with the Army's development of major combat systems. However, to resource this new command and the Cross Functional Teams that will support it, the Army's leadership plans to use funds from other science and technology projects. Army Futures Command Cross Functional Teams are intended to manage the Army's six current modernization priorities. Yet the Army has over 800 procurement programs. It is estimated that 80% of funding for research and development programs will be reprogrammed. The defunding and subsequent cancellation of these projects will likely have negative impacts on small businesses nationwide. Therefore, I request a report from the GAO addressing the following questions:

How did the Army come to the decision to establish a Futures Command? Did the Army perform studies that led them to this decision? If so, what were they, and what were all of the recommendations made? Why did the Army decide that their current plan is the best option?

Did the Army perform studies to determine the impact of a Futures Command on the Defense Industrial Base, the Small Business Innovation Research Program, and on small businesses that support current Army programs? Can the Army provide quantifiable estimates of these impacts?

Has the Army conducted a consequential risk assessment to estimate how reshaping multiple organizations will negatively or positively impact the force? If so, what were the results?

What metrics will the Army use to determine the success of the Futures Command?

Will the DoD and the Army require new or modified legislative authorities to implement the Futures Command plan of action?

If you require additional information regarding this request, please have your staff contact Stephen Ham in my office at (202) 228-6430 or [stephen\\_ham@cardin.senate.gov](mailto:stephen_ham@cardin.senate.gov).

Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin  
Ranking Member