

House Armed Services Committee

Defense Member Day

April 15, 2026

Thank you, Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Smith for holding this hearing. I'm grateful for the opportunity to share with the Committee my defense priorities for the upcoming year.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, my top defense priority has always been ensuring that Humvees maintain strong funding that continues to support military readiness and the U.S. industrial base. This remains my top priority this year.

Mr. Chairman, you and I have spoken several times about the importance of the lightweight tactical vehicle program – especially Humvees – to my constituents, our warfighters, and the broader industrial base. It is essential that we continue to strong funding support for this vital program.

AM General has been proudly manufacturing Humvees in Mishawaka, Indiana for more than 40 years. AM General's innovation, resourcefulness, and constant modernization has made the Humvee the cornerstone of the LTV fleet over the past four decades. The Humvee has served on countless missions at home and abroad, including using Humvees in their mission to secure the southern border.

AM General's long history of manufacturing Humvees has strongly equipped it to be the new manufacturer for the Army's joint lightweight tactical vehicle or JLTVs. The JLTV has a greater payload, blast protection, and armoring capability due to its weight and size relative to the lighter, more mobile HMMWV. The JLTV A2 is now in production and features more than 250 enhancements to the original JLTV which provides greater mobility, reliability, and technological capabilities.

As you know, Humvee and JLTVs, are essential to ensuring Army and Marine Corps readiness for today missions and potential future threats. The Army has publicly stated that there will be over 49,000 JLTVs and 55,000 HMMWVs in the fleet until 2050. However, the Humvee fleet is aging creating reliability concerns that urgently need to be addressed.

By 2030, the average age of our Humvee fleet will be 20 years old, and the oldest vehicles will be 40 years old. This shows the pressing need to start replacing these aging vehicles with new modernized vehicles. The new Humvee model has increased safety measures and stronger dependability which is crucial to the success of our warfighters.

Your leadership is critical to ensure the Army and Marine Corps LTV strategy is properly resourced in order to combat the constantly changing threats posed to the U.S.

AM General alone proudly employs more than 1,100 hardworking Americans across their Midwest facilities. The broader LTV industrial base stretches across 48 states and over 1,100 supplier businesses.

Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Smith, I ask that you continue to support HMMWV and JLTVs through the FY27 NDAA and the other work this committee does throughout the year.

Supporting a strong LTV fleet is essential to maintaining a robust domestic industrial base and the strongest military readiness. Additionally, Humvees are playing a critical part in executing President Trump's directives to secure the southern border and strengthen national security.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to continuing to work with you on this important issue.