

## May 25, 2007 - Rep. Slaughter Includes Language to Supplemental to Assist Rochester-Based Harris Co.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, May 25, 2007

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"I am pleased to have worked to secure this provision that will protect jobs in Rochester and assist the Harris Corporation to make radios for our proud men and women in the field," said Rep. Slaughter. "This will not only benefit the economy of Rochester, but also our soldiers bravely serving abroad."

Rep. Slaughter worked directly with the Chairman of the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee to ensure this language would be included in the final bill. She will continue to work directly with the Army to make certain that Harris RF Communications continues to play a role in providing equipment to our men and women in uniform.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Defense had asked for approximately \$2 billion in the 2007 and 2008 emergency supplemental requests to meet the Army's requests for SINGCARS. In order to ensure Harris RF had the ability to meet the Army's needs for the radio systems, Harris RF hired an additional 250 employees and made a \$17 million capital investment in a new facility in Rochester.

This year, the Army decided to deviate from their procurement plan and use FY07 and FY08 budgets to purchase radios from one supplier. Their plan excluded Harris and therefore broke their previous contract with Harris RF to produce a share of the radios. The language included in the supplemental fixes that issue by calling on the Army to honor its commitment to purchase SINGCARS from Harris Co., with a prohibition on spending down a certain amount of the funds until the Army explains why they deviated from the procurement schedule.

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