United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Roger Goodell, Commissioner National Football League 345 Park Avenue, 5th Floor New York, NY 10154

February 7, 2025

Dear Commissioner Goodell:

We understand that this year's NFL Super Bowl flyover will include the Defense Department's V-22 Osprey. On the 250th anniversary of the Marine Corps, we appreciate the NFL's effort to honor servicemembers. But we believe that it is inappropriate to feature the Osprey in this way and that the aircraft should not be included in the flyover.

As we <u>wrote</u> to the Pentagon late last year, a spike in V-22 incidents over the last 5 years makes clear that there are serious safety concerns regarding the aircraft, and that it should be grounded —again—until those concerns are resolved.

The V-22 has been involved in 21 major accidents since 1992 resulting in 64 deaths. In March 2022, Marine Corps Captain Ross A. Reynolds from Leominster, Massachusetts was piloting a V-22 when it crashed near Norway, killing Captain Reynolds and three other Marines onboard. The most recent crash, off the coast of Japan in November 2023, killed eight service members, including Staff Sergeant Jacob Galliher – a young father from Pittsfield, Massachusetts. As recently as December 2024, an Osprey was forced to land due to an engine failure.

The families of these brave servicemembers are still grieving the loss of their loved ones. They should not have to be reminded of their loss while watching the Super Bowl.

Out of respect for the military families and in deference to the safety concerns about the aircraft, we strongly urge you to cancel the planned V-22 Osprey Super Bowl flyover this Sunday.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey

United States Senator

Elizabeth Warren

United States Senator