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The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman Base Realignment and Closure Committee
2521 South Clark, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

Last week, Congress received the Pentagon's BRAC report, which increased the capabilities at Rosecrans Memorial Airport Air Guard base in St. Joseph, Missouri. I am very pleased that the Department of Defense recognizes the important role that the 139th Airlift Wing stationed at Rosecrans plays in defending our nation both domestically and abroad.

The 139th has sent personnel across the globe in defense of America. While they have been extremely busy, it is tremendously rewarding to know that the men and women of the 139th Airlift Wing are providing a significant contribution to the Department of Defense. The 139th Airlift Wing has successfully demonstrated to the Department of Defense that their installations not only fulfill critical missions, but they also offer outstanding training opportunities. The 139th is facing an improved transition that is consistent with the direction the National Guard and Reserve is heading in the future with new and extremely important missions in the global war on terror. These missions are in high demand and play a critical role in supporting current and future operations, and I know that the 139th Airlift Wing is up to the challenge.

I look forward to working with you as the BRAC process moves forward and I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure that the 139th Airlift Wing is at the forefront of homeland security and national defense. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Sam Graves
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Matt Blunt, Governor of Missouri