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TO: Anthony J. Principi FROM: Nan Scudiero

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State of Connecticut
Office of the Treasurer

DENISE L. NAPIER
TREASURER

July 6, 2005

Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

Only my attendance at the funeral of a family member this morning, where I delivered the eulogy, prevented me from standing with the delegation representing the State of Connecticut urging the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission to reconsider the inclusion of the submarine base in Groton, Connecticut on the pending closure list.

I recognize the tremendous complexity and paramount importance of the process now underway, and I concur in the conclusion reached by the members of Connecticut's expert team of military and economic experts. As they outlined so effectively in the State's formal presentation, clear and present dangers adverse to the best interests of our nation could well result from moving forward with the standing recommendation to close this unparalleled facility.

I trust that in the coming weeks you and your colleagues on the Commission will consider critical information that was either inadvertently omitted or not accurately portrayed in the analysis provided to you as the underpinning of the initial report recommendations. Additionally, I would anticipate that the Commission members will be further aided in their review of this matter by today's presentations as well as the first-hand knowledge gained during the on-site visit to the base in Groton.

As Connecticut's chief elected financial official, I can say without fear of contradiction that the economic ramifications of the closure of this specific facility, and the particular circumstances related to it, would be both significant and detrimental to our state and its citizens. More importantly, given your overriding obligations, it is anticipated that closing the Groton sub base would be accompanied by far more serious ramifications related to the long-term prospects for our nation's military preparedness. That central and pivotal fact, grounded in the solid case which supports it, is the foundation not only for Connecticut's presentation before the Commission, but for the vehemence with which we are pursuing essential revisions as part of the BRAC recommendations.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful conclusion to your deliberations, as I share our nation's appreciation for your dedicated service in this crucial and difficult task. If I may be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Denise L. Napier".

Denise L. Napier
Connecticut State Treasurer