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Northern Virginia Regional Commission

BRAC Commission

AUG 08 2005

Received

July 29, 2005

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(as of January 27, 2005)

Hon. Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

Thank you for holding a special BRAC public hearing on July 7th to hear the needs of Northern Virginia. As you are well aware, this region is particularly sensitive to the Department of Defense's operations since we are home to the Pentagon, Fort Belvoir, Fort Myer, and Quantico Marine Corps Base.

Attached is the resolution adopted by the Northern Virginia Regional commission at its meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2005, establishing a regional position on the Secretary of Defense's BRAC recommendations.

NVRC, a regional council of local governments representing Northern Virginia's counties, cities, and towns, strongly endorses the testimony offered to the BRAC Commission by Senators John Warner and George Allen and Governor Mark Warner at its Virginia public hearing. In addition, NVRC and Northern Virginia's local governments reaffirm their commitment to work with the BRAC Commission and the Department of Defense.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 703-642-4646 or at gmg@novaregion.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Mark Gibb".

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

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Northern Virginia Regional Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. P06-01

PATRON: G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director
DATE: July 28, 2005

REGIONAL POSITION ON THE 2005 DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING NORTHERN VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, Virginia has a centuries-long tradition of supporting America's Armed Forces, being the home of an unparalleled array of military installations and commands, including such familiar places in Northern Virginia as the Pentagon, Fort Myer, Fort Belvoir, and the Quantico Marine Corps Base, as well as, serving our country's defense needs through numerous DoD related leaseholds in commercial office facilities in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Northern Virginia localities and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission are committed to working with the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) to support the future and changing defense needs of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission has worked actively with its local member governments and the Virginia Commission on Military Bases (VCOMB) to help provide an accurate and complete understanding of the BRAC process and the impacts on Northern Virginia, by developing a comprehensive inventory of commercial leased space for DoD purposes in Northern Virginia; by completing an analysis - with George Mason University - of the potential economic impact throughout Virginia, and by presenting briefings to public officials and commercial representatives on the BRAC process and the impact of increased federal building security requirements; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2005, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) released its list of DoD facilities proposed for closure or realignment to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment "BRAC" Commission; and

WHEREAS, the BRAC Commission held a regional hearing in Northern Virginia on July 7th to receive testimony from representatives of Virginia to address the impact of DoD recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the testimony given for Virginia by Governor Mark Warner and Senators John Warner and George Allen, stated that the DoD's recommendations on *leased* space so substantially deviate from the criteria established by Congress that the BRAC Commission should completely remove leased space from consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Defense already has the full authority to terminate facility leases and relocate functions from leased space, and does not need the BRAC process to do so; and

WHEREAS, the DoD recommendations were to have been based, in part, on the economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of the military installations, the infrastructure and sustainability of both existing and potential receiving communities, and environmental impacts of the proposed realignments and closures.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission urges the BRAC Commission to carefully review and consider favorably the testimony and written materials submitted by Governor Warner and Senators Warner and Allen others representatives that testified at the July 7th public hearing and remove leased space from consideration within the BRAC process,

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission reaffirms its commitment to work with the Department of Defense, local member governments, Virginia state agencies, and other parties to assure the DoD's efforts in transforming the United States' military are met.