



WASHOE COUNTY COMMISSION

"Dedicated to Excellence in Public Service"

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August 24, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi – Chairman
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202-3920

Chairman Principi and Members of the Commission:

As Chairman of the Washoe County Commission, I would like to offer the following information in support of maintaining the current mission of the Nevada Air National Guard at Reno-Tahoe International Airport:

- The Nevada Air National Guard C-130 aircraft stationed at Reno-Tahoe International Airport, and the teams who fly and maintain these aircraft are critical to the safety and well-being of the residents of Washoe County, as well as to the safety of the entire State of Nevada and surrounding states.
- The Nevada Air National Guard's C-130 aircraft are crucial to Nevada's ability to respond quickly, efficiently and effectively to major emergencies and disasters.
- The Nevada Air National Guard's aircraft and crew are part of our first line of defense against loss of life and property during natural disasters: The Nevada Air National Guard's C-130 aircraft have in fact responded to various natural disasters in our region and within Nevada--bringing critical supplies to the Reno-Sparks-Tahoe area when the region was completely cut off from traditional transportation routes during the devastating 1997 floods; and more recently, delivering supplies to crews fighting wildfires near Elko, Nevada.
- The men and women of the Nevada Air National Guard are a critical component of the Governor's emergency management team and need to be capable, ready and able to respond to any emergency on a moment's notice.

It is my sincerest hope that you will not change the mission of the Nevada Air National Guard and that you will recommend keeping the Nevada Air Guard's C-130 Aircraft at Reno-Tahoe International Airport.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie Weber".

Bonnie Weber, Chairman
Washoe County Commission