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DCN 1106
COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MINORITY, MILITARY
READINESS
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES
RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
FISHERIES, CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE,
AND OCEANS

April 22, 2005

ORIGINAL

Honorable James Bilbray
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Polk Building
Suite 600
2521 South Clark St., Arlington, VA, 22202

RECEIVED
4/26/05

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

This is to offer my congratulations to you on your appointment as commissioner on the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission. This duty is a monumental and service-altering mission; and all decisions will be painful for our nation and our communities.

I look forward to having an ongoing conversation with you about the national security missions carried out by the military bases in South Texas over the next several months. The support the people of South Texas have shown for these facilities, their critical missions, and our national defense is unparalleled and we look forward to conveying this to the commission.

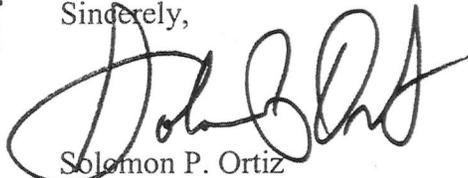
Your background in Congress has prepared you to understand and carry out the critical oversight role this commission must play in this process. I am confident that your leadership will ensure that the President's recommendations receive a thorough and objective review.

I do not envy you in this role, but you do have my eternal respect for the patriotic task you play on this commission ensuring the needs of our service men and women are maintained.

With kindest regards, I am

*Looking forward to working
with you*

Sincerely,



Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress