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**BRAC Commission**  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to oppose the closing of the Cannon air Force Base in New Mexico. I don't understand why the base is being targeted for closure. This particular base does not fit the criteria for a base closure. The base has an abundance of air space, and no encroachment issues. This provides for a safer and more realistic training scenario for pilots. Also, the availability of air space and ideal flying weather, make Cannon the perfect candidate for future training missions for the F-22, joint Strike Fighter, and other Military aircraft. The weather in Eastern New Mexico also provides for year round training.

Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and so much more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

We continue to support our men and women of the United States Air Force. As a business owner in Clovis New Mexico, I remain strong in the belief that we have extremely good people in our community. They will continue their strong community efforts, to keep such a travesty from happening. Please consider this information in your unbelievably difficult assignment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jeff Smith', written over a large, loopy scribble.

Jeff Smith  
President and CEO  
PrimeSource Mortgage  
Clovis New Mexico

**RECEIVED**  
5/26/05