



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives

BRAC Commission

State House, Boston 02133-1054

JUL 19 2005

JEFFREY DAVIS PERRY

REPRESENTATIVE

5th BARNSTABLE DISTRICT

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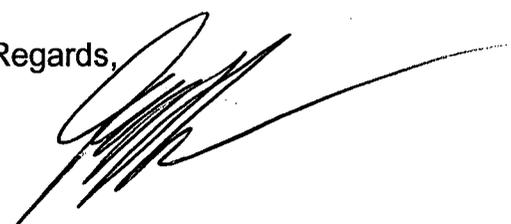
July 14, 2005

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

Dear BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing you today on behalf of the Massachusetts House of Representatives in support of keeping Otis Air National Guard Base open. Enclosed you will find a resolution that was unanimously adopted on June 30, 2005 voicing our State's strong support for this vital military installation. I ask that you review this resolution and understand just how important Otis is to our security and our economy. I thank you for your consideration.

Regards,


Jeffrey Davis Perry
State Representative
5th Barnstable District

Massachusetts House of Representatives



Resolutions

SUPPORTING THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE
AS THE HOME OF THE 102ND FIGHTER WING.

WHEREAS, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS RECOMMENDED THE CLOSURE OF OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE TO THE 2005 BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION; AND

WHEREAS, OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY RESERVATION LOCATED IN UPPER CAPE COD SINCE 1935; AND

WHEREAS, THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY RESERVATION UNIQUELY COMBINES ARMY, AIR FORCE, AND COAST GUARD UNITS IN A SINGLE LOCATION IDEALY SUITED FOR THE INTEGRATED OPERATIONS OF HOMELAND SECURITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY; AND

WHEREAS, THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY RESERVATION IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF THE ECONOMY OF UPPER CAPE COD, PROVIDING MORE THAN 500 JOBS AND SUPPORTING MANY LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ITS CLOSURE WOULD BE A HEAVY BLOW FOR THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES; AND

WHEREAS, THE LANDING STRIP AT OTIS IS ONE OF THE FEW PLACES IN AMERICA WHERE THE SPACE SHUTTLE CAN LAND IN AN EMERGENCY; AND

WHEREAS, THE CLOSURE OF OTIS WOULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE THE VIABILITY AND CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE COAST GUARD AIR STATION AND THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD FACILITY AT THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY RESERVATION; AND

WHEREAS, THE ELIMINATION OF THE 102ND FIGHTER WING WOULD SEVERELY IMPACT THE ABILITY TO PUT PLANES IN THE SKIES OVER NEW ENGLAND QUICKLY IN THE EVENT OF A SECURITY EMERGENCY, THEREBY CREATING A NEW TERRORISM VULNERABILITY; AND

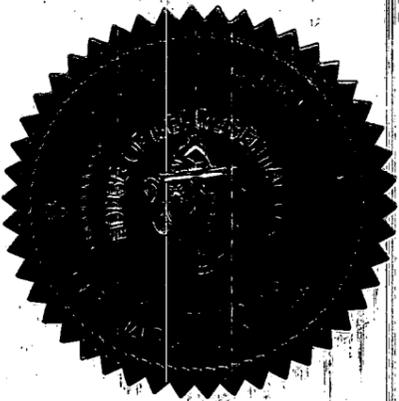
WHEREAS, EVERY ELECTED OFFICIAL FROM CAPE COD, TOGETHER WITH GOVERNOR ROMNEY, THE UNITED STATES SENATORS FROM MASSACHUSETTS AND MEMBERS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE; AND

WHEREAS, THE COMMONWEALTH HAS DEMONSTRATED ITS COMMITMENT TO OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE BY EXTENDING THE LEASE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MILITARY RESERVATION IN 2003; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION TO RECONSIDER ITS RECOMMENDATION AND SUPPORT THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES URGES THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE AS THE HOME OF THE 102ND FIGHTER WING; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE FORWARDED BY THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, TO THE UNITED STATES SENATORS FROM MASSACHUSETTS, TO THE CONGRESSMAN FROM THE 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS, AND TO THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ADOPTED, JUNE 30, 2005.

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CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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