

RESOLUTION No. 04 -2005

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE "KEEP CANNON INITIATIVE"

WHEREAS, the Clovis Army Air Base was activated During World War II and closed at the end of war; and,

WHEREAS, the base was reactivated during the Korean conflict and has been continually serving the national defense since that time; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has a long history of both combat and peace time services to the safety and security of the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Clovis and Portales communities have strongly supported Cannon Air Force Base, its mission and the United States Air Force personnel and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense, on May 13, 2005, announced its recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base as a part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base meets all announced criteria governing the base closure evaluation; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has favorable flying conditions, is in close proximity to the Melrose Bomb range, has recently refurbished both runways and other infrastructure, and has infrastructure capable of accommodating an expanded mission; and,

WHEREAS, through foresight and planning by local and state officials, air right easements have been previously acquired to eliminate encroachment issues that have impacted other Air Force bases; and,

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative should be finalized before the end of 2005, allowing supersonic training at Melrose Bomb Range and the associated military

airspace; and,

WHEREAS, from the inception of the air expeditionary force (AEF) concept, Cannon Air Force Base has served a lead wing; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon personnel and their families have contributed greatly to the local community, and the local community has provided a supportive home to those military families; and,

WHEREAS, the closure of Cannon Air Force Base would have a significant adverse impact on the community, both financially and culturally; and,

WHEREAS, the Association of Counties believes that the closure recommendation fails to follow the announced criteria; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has vowed to lead and support efforts to overcome the recommendation of the Defense Department; and

WHEREAS, Congressional leaders have also pledged to lead efforts to overcome the recommendation; and,

WHEREAS, the Citizens of New Mexico and West Texas support Cannon Air Force Base and the efforts to resist closure; and ,

WHEREAS, City and community leaders have developed a strategy and incitive to collect and present data that will demonstrate that Cannon Air Force Base is a necessary component for the military and security needs of the country far into the future; and,

WHEREAS, the Association of Counties seeks the involvement, support and assistance of all citizens to successfully persuade the BRAC Commission to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

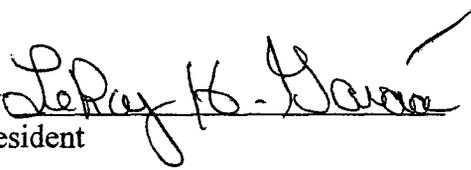
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Counties , to exert

DCN 4956
Executive Correspondence

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DONE this 9th day of June, 2005.

ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

By 
President

(SEAL)

ATTEST


Secretary

My Commission Expires: 4-8-2006

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By Leroy H. Brown
President

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James H. Hulse
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By LeRoy H. Garcia
President

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