



BOB TAFT
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

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5-23-05

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May 17, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi,

I commend you for taking on a very difficult responsibility on behalf of our National Defense. In a very short time you and the Commission have demonstrated both the knowledge and fairness required for this task. In particular I wish to thank you for your openness with the nation's Governors.

As you know, Ohio has a long history of support to our military by our dedicated communities and the service of our citizens. As such, we have a variety of unique installations that cover a broad spectrum of military activity. As the size of the DoD recommendations is daunting for visits by the Commission, I know you have some difficult scheduling choices. In preparing for your visits I strongly request that DFAS-Cleveland, Mansfield Lahm Air National Guard Base, and Springfield Air National Guard Base receive Commissioner visits, as opposed to staff visits. As for, Wright Patterson Air Force Base and the Defense Supply Center-Columbus, I also request Commission visits. Though these two installations have a net gain, there are substantial losses, which displace hundreds of skilled civilian personnel.

I personally plan to attend each Commission visit and look forward to speaking with you in the near future. Any early notification on dates will be most appreciated. I thank you for your favorable considerations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Taft".

Bob Taft
Governor

DCN 1224



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Governor
State of Ohio

FAX COVER SHEET

To: Anthony Principi

From: Governor Bob Taft

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Comments: