



IN THE CITY OF MAYFIELD HEIGHTS

06222005

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-42

INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Margaret Egensperger, Council Members
Michael Ballistrea, Gregory Costabile, Geno Manfredi,
Sam Mercurio, Diane Snider, Howard Sonenstein, and Gayle Teresi

A RESOLUTION

**URGING THE UNITED STATES BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT
COMMISSION TO RETAIN 1,028 IMPORTANT FEDERAL DEFENSE JOBS AT
THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE IN DOWNTOWN
CLEVELAND AND SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING THE CLEVELAND
DEFENSE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE AND THE GREATER CLEVELAND
PARTNERSHIP IN THEIR ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE REGION'S
ECONOMIC VITALITY BY APPEALING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REALIGN THESE JOBS TO
OTHER CITIES AND ENCOURAGING THEIR RETENTION; AND FURTHER
COMMITTING COUNCIL'S SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN THIS
UNDERTAKING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Mayfield Heights has as one of its primary responsibilities improving the health and welfare of its citizens, which includes ensuring the availability of a diverse selection of employment opportunities in the Greater Cleveland area; and

WHEREAS, the Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS) in downtown Cleveland is currently the fourth largest federal employer in Greater Cleveland, with a \$65 million annual payroll; and

WHEREAS, DFAS employs some 1,200 people from throughout the region, and provides jobs that are vital to the health of the regional workforce and enrich the ranks of professionals in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland DFS office is the world center for Navy payroll services and personnel data management as well as the Reserve Pay Center of Excellence, distributing \$101 billion and serving 2,745,000 military and civilian personnel, retirees and annuitants in FY 2003; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland's DFAS office is an integral part of the system that supports our armed forces, and is a cutting edge model of operational efficiency and customer service for U.S. military pay operations around the world; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these jobs could cost Greater Cleveland an estimated \$128 million, further eroding our regional and state tax base and endangering money for vital services, such as police and fire protection throughout Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Cleveland is one of the nation's preeminent financial service centers home to the headquarters of several large commercial banks and the regional Federal Reserve, and perfectly situated to continue its track record of excellence here well into the future; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense (DOD) has recommended to the Base Closure and Realignment Commission that 1,028 jobs currently performed by the Cleveland DFAS in the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building be relocated to other cities; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation is not a final decision; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance has announced its intentions to work with community partners to fight and reverse DOD's proposal before the Base Realignment and Closure Commission forwards its recommendations to President Bush in September 2005.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mayfield Heights, State of Ohio:

Section 1: That this Council hereby urges the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove the Cleveland office of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service from the list of closures and realignments proposed on May 13, 2005, and retain the 1,028 important federal defense jobs here in Cleveland.

Section 2: That this Council encourages the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance and the Greater Cleveland Partnership in their advocacy efforts to preserve the region's economic vitality by working to reverse the U.S. Department of Defense's recommendation to realign these professional jobs to other cities.

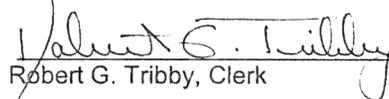
Section 3: That the Clerk of this Council is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this resolution to President George W. Bush, Congressional Representatives Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Dennis Kucinich, Sherrod Brown and Steven LaTourette, and Senators Mike DeWine and George Voinovich, the appropriate representatives from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, and the members of the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance.

Section 4: That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council, concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees, that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 5: That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety. Such necessity exists by reason of the fact that in order to make the federal government officials aware in a timely manner of the concerns of the City pertaining to the proposed closure of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in downtown Cleveland, which will negatively impact Northeast Ohio, this resolution needs to be adopted at the earliest possible time. Wherefore, this resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage by Council and the signature of the Mayor.

First Reading: June 13, 2005
Second Reading: Suspended
Third Reading: Suspended
Passed: June 13, 2005

Attest:


Robert G. Tribby, Clerk


Gregory S. Costabile
President of Council

Presented
To Mayor: June 14, 2005

Approved: June 14, 2005

Margaret A. Egenberger, Mayor