

JUL 13 2005

Resolution
186-05

Received

OPPOSING THE CLOSURE OF FORT MONMOUTH

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2005, the Department of Defense announced that it was recommending the closure of more than 30 major military bases in the United States, including Fort Monmouth; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth, which has been in service since 1917, is the largest employer in Monmouth County, with over 5,000 military and civilian personnel; and

WHEREAS, local officials say that the Fort contributes \$3 billion to the local and State economies, and its closure would not only put thousands of people out of work, but would also have a devastating impact on local businesses; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth, which is home to the Army's Communications and Electronics Command, has long been at the forefront of developing state-of-the-art battlefield technology, including many devices currently being used by our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth's contributions to the war in Iraq include electronic jamming devices to interfere with the detonation of roadside bombs, airborne sensors to provide troops with radar images of both stationary and moving targets, and fielding systems to locate enemy artillery pieces and prevent friendly fire casualties; and

WHEREAS, keeping Fort Monmouth open is not only vital to the economy of the State and the County, but also to our nation's efforts in Iraq and the war on terror;