



City of Solon

06262005

Record of Ordinances

Requested by the
Mayor

RESOLUTION NO: 2005-159

INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR PATTON

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION TO RETAIN JOBS AT THE DEFENSE
FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE IN CLEVELAND
AND SUPPORTING THE CLEVELAND DEFENSE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE
AND THE GREATER CLEVELAND PARTNERSHIP IN THEIR EFFORTS
TO APPEAL THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO REALIGN THESE JOBS TO OTHER CITIES

WHEREAS, the Solon City Council 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 and 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 DFAS 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 saving 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

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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; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Solon, State of Ohio:

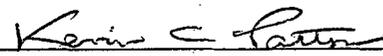
SECTION 1. That the Mayor and City Council urges the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove the Cleveland office of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service from the list of closures and realignments proposed on May 13, 2005, and retain the 1,028 important federal defense jobs here in Cleveland.

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 Council is hereby directed to transmit copies of this Resolution to President George W. Bush; Congressional Representatives Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Dennis Kucinich, Sherrod Brown, and Steven LaTourette, and Senators Michael DeWine and George Voinovich; the appropriate representatives from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, and the members of the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance.

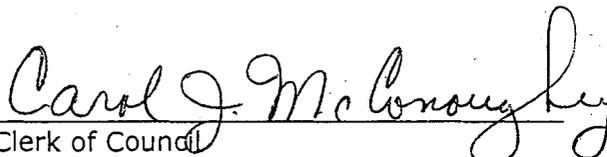
SECTION 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the necessary affirmative vote of the elected members, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: June 20, 2005



Mayor

ATTEST:

Asst. 
Clerk of Council