

**RESOLUTION NO. 2005-11****A RESOLUTION TO KEEP THE DELAWARE AIR NATIONAL GUARD IN NEW CASTLE AT THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY AIRPORT**

**WHEREAS**, The Delaware Air National Guard has constitutional foundations as a sovereign and separate state military component, tasked to fly military missions, and to play an important part in homeland defense and emergency response roles such as hurricanes, floods, blizzards, oil spills in the Delaware River, and various civil disturbances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delaware Air National Guard has served the citizens of our community, state and nation with valor, honor and distinction, in all major military operations during the past fifty-nine years, including Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, Panama, Bosnia, throughout Latin American, Thailand, Japan, Africa and all over Europe; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of its outstanding record, the Delaware Air National Guard has been cited as the best in the Air National Guard, consistently receiving "excellent" ratings during inspections. The Delaware Air National Guard has a talented and dedicated workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) plans to break up the DEANG flying unit and spread it over several locations, with the C-130 aircraft going to two southern bases, the fire-fighting unit to Dover, and the aero-medical unit to Maguire AFB; and

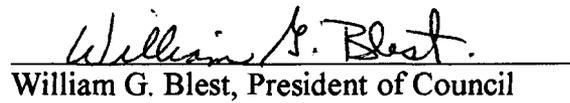
**WHEREAS**, this action makes it virtually impossible for the DEANG to perform its primary mission which is to serve as one arm of the Delaware militia, and, worse than that, if the BRAC/Pentagon recommendations are adopted, the USAF will have removed all the C-130 tactical airlift capacity along the East Coast from Rhode Island to North Carolina, leaving a serious void in the Northeast corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, the savings will be meager (the Air National Guard is 4% of the budget while providing 40% of the Air Force capability), and the dismantling of the DEANG will come at the cost of further erosion of the connection between American citizens and those who defend them. Removing the flying unit of the DEANG will cause serious disruption to our state's militia which is essential not only for military support, but for local, state, and national emergencies. The safety issue is important and impacts all citizens. There is also the economic impact to be considered.

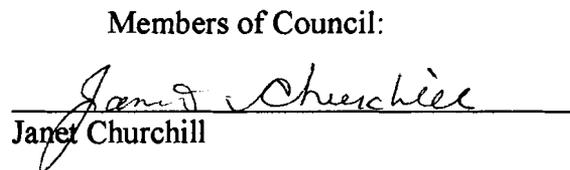
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that BRAC will keep the DEANG at New Castle, adding four additional C-130s, considering this as an alternate strategy. This is the right size mission in the Northeast corridor; this airlift mission is needed to provide a Homeland Defense capability for airlifting Civil Support Teams, and other critical functions in the target-rich environment of the populous and strategically important Richmond/DC/Baltimore/Philadelphia/New York megalopolis. This is the heart of our Federal Government and Delaware is the fulcrum on which it balances. It is the right thing for America. We cannot afford to get this wrong.

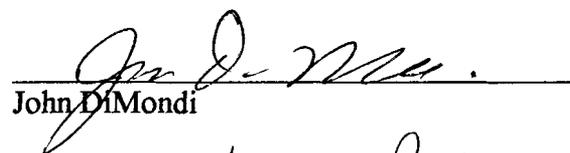
Passed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2005

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor John F. Klingmeyer

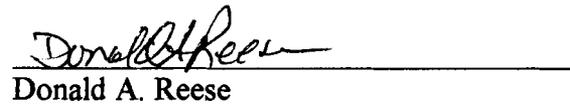
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William G. Blest, President of Council

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jill DiAngelo, City Clerk

Members of Council:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Churchill

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John DiMondi

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Teel Petty

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donald A. Reese

