

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

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May 19, 2005

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Dear Chairman Principi:

As the BRAC Commission moves forward with its consideration of locations around the country in which to hold regional hearings concerning the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendations, we strongly urge you to consider Houston, Texas for one of these hearings. As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have this opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

With the Gulf of Mexico on one side and a foreign border on the other, Texas, and especially a city as large as Houston, has unique national and homeland security responsibilities. There was an extensive amount of information that was requested via the DOD data calls for their deliberations. At this hearing, we hope to provide the Commission with additional, substantial data that was on the periphery or outside the scope of the data calls, yet extremely relevant to many of the local installations' military value and other BRAC criteria.

Understanding the time constraints to consider the extensive list of recommendations, we would ask that a Houston hearing be scheduled at the earliest possible time that the Commission's schedule permits. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tom DeLay

John Culberson

Michael T. McCarl

ATTN

Kevin V. Brady

Al Green

Gene Green

Thibault L
Ron Paul