

RESOLUTION 2014 – 253

WHEREAS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is a 42,000 acre, tri-service military installation in Ocean and Burlington Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Base supports 80 mission partners and is a critical asset for the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and NJ National Guard; and

WHEREAS, recent and future cuts to the federal defense budget will result in mission downsizing and other negative impacts to military installations across the country, regardless of whether a new Base Realignment and Closure round is authorized; and

WHEREAS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is the 2nd largest employer in New Jersey, with 40,645 direct jobs and an additional 63,000 indirect jobs in Ocean, Burlington and Monmouth Counties; and

WHEREAS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst contributes \$3.4 billion annually to the Gross Domestic Product; and

WHEREAS, the County of Ocean has a strong history of support for its military installations and for community support organizations such as the Friends of Navy Lakehurst and the NJ Defense Enhancement Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has recognized the significant impact of its military installations to both national defense and regional economic development through the establishment of the NJ Military Installation Growth & Development Task Force under the leadership of Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in both the New Jersey Senate and Assembly to unite support behind New Jersey's military facilities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey that:

1. It fully supports Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and NJ Senate Resolution 79, NJ Assembly Resolution 110 and NJ Assembly Resolution 116.
2. It supports the work of the NJ Military Installation Growth & Development Task Force and the NJ Defense Enhancement Coalition to protect and enhance New Jersey's military installations.
3. It supports NJ Senate Bill 2096 and NJ Assembly Bill 3253 to fund efforts needed to retain our military installations and highlight the superior capability of our military assets for future missions.

4. It supports a more immediate allocation of economic development funding for military installation support, consistent with the ongoing efforts to retain major employers and attract new businesses to New Jersey.
5. Certified copies of this resolution shall be made available to Governor Chris Christie, the NJ State Legislature, Ocean County Mayors, Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, NJ Military Installation Growth & Development Task Force and the NJ Defense Enhancement Coalition.

CERTIFICATION

I, Diane B. Ambrosio, Clerk of the Township of Ocean, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee on the 10th day of July 2014.

Diane B. Ambrosio, RMC
Municipal Clerk