

June 29, 2017

Brigadier General John D. Slocum
29553 George Avenue
Selfridge Air National Guard Base, MI 48045

Dear General Slocum:

As the executive director of Automation Alley, I am pleased to write this letter of support to bring the new F-35A Lightning II to Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Automation Alley, an 800+ member technology organization, has hundreds of members in Macomb County.

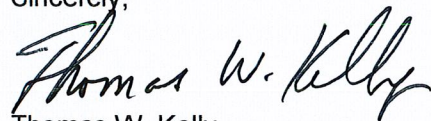
Our membership understands and appreciates the true impact that Selfridge has on our region, our state and our nation. For 100 years, the communities surrounding Selfridge have supported the base. In fact, in 1950 the Mount Clemens Military-Community Relations Committee coordinated local citizen efforts to support the men and women the base. This committee became the nation's first active and successful military relations committee. Air Force officials took note, and Mount Clemens became a model for other military towns to follow.

In turn, Selfridge has been a staunch community partner as well as a strategic epicenter for mission readiness at home and abroad. Home to all five branches of the armed forces, we recognize the unique and important asset that we share. Nearly 3,000 full-time civilian and military personnel and 3,000 members of the Air and Army National Guard and the Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces stand ready to defend us.

On behalf of Automation Alley, I fully support the continued evolution of base capabilities. Our organization stands ready to support any element necessary to beddown the F-35 in Macomb County.

I look forward to receiving good news about the anticipated announcement from the U.S. Air Force from you very soon. If there is anything I can do to provide direct support for this effort, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Kelly
Executive Director

cc: U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senator Gary Peters
Congressman Sander Levin
Congressman Paul Mitchell
Governor Rick Snyder
Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel
John Paul Rea, Director, Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development