

June 28, 2017

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

Dear General Slocum:

As the CEO of the Macomb County Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to write this letter of support to bring the new F-35A Lightning II to Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Our Chamber understands and appreciates the true impact that Selfridge has on our region, our state and our nation. Through its annual impact of approximately \$850 million, Selfridge Air National Guard Base benefits this community with highly paid jobs, service contracts, and families that work, shop and go to schools in our region. Continuing military missions at Selfridge, especially growth inside its military gates, can mean growth outside the gates. Jobs may expand in construction, retail, health care, and hospitality as the base brings in more personnel, needs new infrastructure and requires ongoing maintenance.

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, now the Selfridge Base Community Council, 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 and 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.

With approximately 73,000 businesses in Macomb County, the Chamber is proud to advocate for Selfridge ANG Base on behalf of the business community. Our community stands ready to support any element necessary to beddown the F-35 in Macomb County.

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

Sincerely,



Grace Shore, CEO

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