

RESOLUTION 13 - 05

WHEREAS, the 183rd Fighter Wing of the Illinois Air National Guard located in Springfield, Illinois is a vital component of the economy of the Village of Chatham; and,

WHEREAS, the 183rd Fighter Wing protects the interests of the people of the United States of America by flying missions all around the world; and,

WHEREAS, the 183rd Fighter Wing has an annual budget of more than \$61 million, including a payroll of over \$29 million that is necessary to fund its 331 full-time positions and 1,156 traditional guardsman positions; and,

WHEREAS, a number of the employees of the 183rd Fighter Wing live in our community, pay local taxes and educate their children in our local schools; and,

WHEREAS, the economic impact of the closure of the 183rd Fighter Wing on the Central Illinois communities, townships and villages totals \$44.6 million dollars in business output, 954 jobs and \$13 million in tax revenues; and,

WHEREAS, in the year 2005, the federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission will identify from all of the active, national guard and reserve installations across that nation and forward a list of recommended military base realignments and closures to the President of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, those bases recommended for realignment and closure could include those some from Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, recommendations for closure are based on several criteria including, but not limited to, military value, economic impact to the community and local units of government, and environmental issues; and,

WHEREAS, the level of support from locally impacted communities is a matter of concern and part of the considerations for realignment and closure; and,

WHEREAS, a leadership group was formed in the fall of 2003 to oversee the process of developing the best case, coordinating data and information gathering related to the

current mission, current status and Importance to the state and national military mission and future possible opportunities for the 183rd Fighter Wing in Springfield and that leadership group is being chaired by the Mayor of the City of Springfield and is comprised of representatives of the area business community, representatives of both the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, a representative of the Springfield Airport Authority, and a retired Colonel that previously served as the United States Property and Fiscal Officer for Illinois.

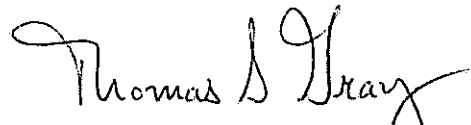
WHEREAS, hiring a political consulting firm located in Washington, D.G. to monitor the BRAG process and advise these organizations on how to proceed to improve our chances of surviving the BRAC will provide a competitive advantage; and,

WHEREAS, area organizations including Sangamon County, the City of Springfield, the Springfield Airport Authority, the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Sherman, the Springfield Hotel/Motel Association and the Capital Area Association of REALTORS recognize the need for a competitive advantage to help ensure the future of the 183rd Fighter Wing and have made financial contributions of support.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:


SECTION 1: The President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Chatham recognize and support the effort to maintain the 183rd Fighter Wing at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport.

SECTION 2: This Resolution is effective immediately.



Thomas S. Gray, President

ATTEST:


Pat Schad, Clerk