## MARGATE CITY RESOLUTION #59-2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE CITY, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING LANDING THE F-35 IN NJ AND URGING THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO BASE F-35 FIGHTER JETS AT THE 177<sup>TH</sup> FIGHTER WING IN ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

WHEREAS, On January 9, 2020, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed Senate Joint Resolution No. 83, urging the United States Air Force to base F-35 fighter jets at the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing in Atlantic City, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard is among the units being considered for a second time by the United States Air Force to base F-35 fighter jets; and

WHEREAS, This State continues its belief in the strength and suitability of the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing as a base for F-35 fighter jets; and

WHEREAS, The 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing meets the United States Air Force basing criteria which includes: mission requirements such as weather, airspace and training range availability; capacity such as sufficient hanger and ramp space, and facility considerations; environmental requirements; and cost factors; and

WHEREAS, The 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is located at the Atlantic City International Airport in Egg Harbor Township, an ideal strategic location between New York City and Washington, D.C. to play a critical role in defending our country; and

WHEREAS, The 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is vitally important in both the Air Combat Command's Aerospace Expeditionary Force structure and NORAD's Air Force Aerospace Control Alert mission; and

WHEREAS, Since October 1998, the 177th Fighter Wing has had an active involvement in Operation's Noble Eagle, Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.; and

WHEREAS, The facilities have already been designed to meet the needs of F-35 fighter jets and any modifications would be limited, minimizing any costs to transition to basing F-35 fighter jets; and

**WHEREAS,** The 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is a premier Air National Guard facility, is a critical asset in the planning and execution of national security decisions, and this State supports its selection as one of the locations to base the United States Air Force F-35 fighter jets; now, therefore,

**WHEREAS**, the F-35 mission would maintain and enhance the economic impact of the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing by continuing its millions of dollars in economic output and approximately 1,200 in-state jobs and create upwards of 100 new jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the F-35 mission would provide upwards of 40 million dollars in improvements to the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Base and create construction jobs with an additional economic impact to the region; and

WHEREAS, there is widespread bipartisan support for basing he F-35s at the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing from federal, state, and community leaders who recognize the importance of the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's dual federal and state missions; and

WHEREAS, the 5<sup>th</sup> Generation F-35 Lighting II is a multi-role fighter capable of successfully executing any and all missions with its ability to collect, analyze, and share data that enhances all airborne, surface, and ground-based assets.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Commissioners do hereby unanimously expresses continued support for the United States Air Force to base F-35 fighter jets at the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT certified copies of this Resolution be directed to: President Donald Trump, Senator Cory Booker, Senator Robert Menendez, Congressman Donald Norcross, Congressman Jefferson Van Drew, Congressman Andy Kim, Congressman Christopher Smith, Congressman Josh Gottheimer, Congressman Frank Pallone Jr., Congressman Tom Malinowski, Congressman Albio Sires, Congressman Bill Pascrell Jr., Congressman Donald Payne Jr., Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman, and United States Air Force Secretary Barbara Barrett.

## **STATEMENT**

This resolution expresses the continued support of this Municipality for the United States Air Force to base F-35 fighter jets at the 177th Fighter Wing in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The 177th Fighter Wing is among the units being considered for a second time by the United States Air Force to base F-35 fighter jets and this Municipality continues its belief in the strength and suitability of the 177th Fighter Wing as a base for F-35 fighter jets.

There is no better place in America to base the most lethal, survivable, and connected fighter aircraft in the world as the 177<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing covers the skies over our country's most vulnerable targets.

Members of the Commission of the City of Margate City

Mayor MICHAEL BECKER

Commissioner JOHN AMODEO

Commissioner MAURY BLUMBERG

## Roll Call

NAME	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Becker	X		X			
Amodeo			X			
Blumberg		X	X			

I, **Johanna Casey**, **City Clerk** of the **City of Margate City**, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the **City Commission** held this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020 and in witness whereof I hereunder set my hand and official seal on this date written.

OHANNA CASEY, CITY CLÆR