



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

RICK PERRY  
GOVERNOR

April 24, 2013

Mr. Paul Paine  
Chairman  
Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC)

Dear Chairman Paine:

With global threats from terrorist groups and tyrannical leaders facing our country, America must continue to defend freedom and democracy around the world, and now is not the time to downsize our readiness capabilities to do so. We must vigorously defend the military assets in our state from another round of base realignments and closures through the BRAC process. The goal of this commission is to preserve, protect, expand and attract new military personnel, missions and installations in the State of Texas. Your mission has never been more crucial than now.

As you know, our 15 military installations boast 148,737 active duty military personnel, employ an additional 107,137 Texans and provide nearly \$150 billion toward our state economy. It is imperative that we work together to ensure these communities and missions are preserved.

TMPC must work with all stakeholders, including our legislative leaders, the Texas congressional delegation, our Office of State and Federal Relations, installation commanders and potentially affected communities. It is imperative we begin to outline a strategy of protecting our military communities and installations from another round of base closures.

We all value our troops' contribution to the defense of our nation, so our action must be swift and comprehensive in addressing the needs and concerns of all 15 military installations and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "RICK PERRY". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Rick Perry  
Governor

RP:kgp

cc: Texas Military Preparedness Commissioners