

RESOLUTION PROTESTING THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE UNITED STATES JOINT FORCES COMMAND AND REQUESTING THE VIRGINIA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND GOVERNOR ROBERT F. MCDONNELL TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN THE JOINT FORCES COMMAND IN HAMPTON ROADS.

WHEREAS, the mission of the United States Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) is to provide mission-ready forces to support the development and integration of joint, interagency, and multi-national capabilities sufficient to meet the present and future operational needs of the military, as well as to anticipate and prepare for the future demands of national defense; and

WHEREAS, JFCOM serves an essential defense function of training, providing and coordinating forces from all branches of the United States Armed Forces in order to meet global operational needs; and

WHEREAS, JFCOM has an annual operating budget exceeding \$700,000,000.00 and employs over 6,000 personnel, including approximately 5,600 employees in the Hampton Roads region; and

WHEREAS, the Defense Business Board is a Federal Advisory Committee that provides senior management advice to the Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates; and

WHEREAS, the Defense Business Board has presented a report to Secretary Gates making recommendations to i) address unsustainable trends associated with military entitlements, ii) reduce the number of military personnel serving in commercial non-government activities, iii) eliminate service of uniformed military personnel in governmental functions that should be occupied by civilian personnel of the United States Department of Defense (DOD); and iv) streamline and reduce the number and size of combatant commands, beginning with the elimination of JFCOM; and

WHEREAS, the report of the Defense Business Board also recommends a need for greater in-depth study of the issues presented; and

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2010, Secretary Gates officially recommended to the President of the United States that JFCOM be closed; and

WHEREAS, the closure of JFCOM would have an immediate and severe detrimental effect on the ability of the United States Armed Forces to jointly respond to threats to national security and would greatly weaken the ability of the individual uniformed services to function effectively and cohesively in countering worldwide terrorism and addressing other priorities in national security; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) established the Allied Command Transformation (ACT) to develop a strategic command for global responses to new defense challenges such as terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and rogue regimes; and

WHEREAS, the existence and location of JFCOM played the definitive role in the establishment and continuation of the NATO Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (HQ SACT), as the only United States based NATO command, located adjacent to JFCOM headquarters; and

WHEREAS, the NATO command in Hampton Roads brings additional benefit to the region through budgetary expenditures and employment; and

WHEREAS, in the event JFCOM is closed as recommended by Secretary Gates, the NATO ACT command in the Hampton Roads region may also be at risk; and

WHEREAS, the proposed closure of JFCOM is without any regard for Federal Law, particularly Title 10 of the U.S. Code, § 2687 which was established to ensure that Congress

has sufficient time and opportunity to review DOD proposals that result in the closure or realignment of significant military facilities; and

WHEREAS, JFCOM is a significant military facility which should not be closed without in-depth Congressional study and action required under the strict intent and impact of 10 USC 2687; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, FINDS that maintaining JFCOM at current levels of operation is not only highly beneficial for the economy of Hampton Roads and the Commonwealth of Virginia but more importantly, is critical to the missions of the United States Armed Forces, including the military men and women who are now fighting wars on two different fronts and responding to threats throughout the world.

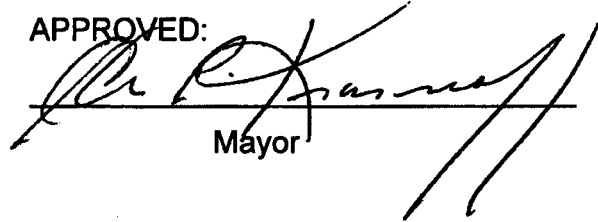
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, that the Congressional Delegation and State Government are requested, with all urgency, to take any and all action necessary to maintain JFCOM in the Hampton Roads Region, at current levels of operation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, stands ready to work diligently with the localities of the Hampton Roads region to maintain JFCOM and ensure the preparedness of our military.

The Clerk of the Chesapeake City Council is requested to send copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense and to the City of Chesapeake Congressional Delegation.

ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, this 24th day
of August, 2010.

APPROVED:



Mayor

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Council