
Documentation

Maine Passes Resolution Rejecting Base Closings

The following resolution was passed on June 13 by the Maine State Legislature.

Joint Resolution Memorializing the Congress of the United States To Mandate that the Base Realignment and Closure Commission Reject the Department of Defense's Recommendation To Realign Naval Air Station Brunswick and To Close Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Limestone

We, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-Second Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Special Session, most respectfully present and petition the Congress of the United States as follows:

Whereas, the military value of Naval Air Station Brunswick, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Limestone is highly significant; and

Whereas, the security of the North Atlantic seaways and the borders of the United States and of the State of Maine are jeopardized by the Department of Defense's recommendation to close Naval Air Station Brunswick, which would put the safety and welfare of United States citizens at risk; and

Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, was recently cited by the United States Navy as the most efficient submarine repair

Whereas, the economic and job loss impact of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's recommendations is significant in terms of the potential elimination of an estimated 12,000 military and civilian jobs in both Maine and New Hampshire; and

Whereas, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission will tour Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery on June 1, 2005 and Naval Air Station Brunswick on June 2, 2005, and the commission's regional hearing on recommendations affecting Maine will occur July 6, 2005, with final recommendations to be made to President Bush by September 8, 2005; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: That We, your Memorialists, on behalf of the people we represent, respectfully urge and request that the Base Realignment and Closure Commission and the United States Congress actively work with the Honorable John E. Baldacci, Governor of Maine, the Maine State Legislature, local task forces and Maine citizens in reviewing the accuracy of the methodology used in developing current recommendations in order to reverse or minimize the recommendations to realign Naval Air Station Brunswick and to close Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Limestone; and be it further:

Resolved: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.



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Will the Bush Administration dump 300 years of shipbuilding down the drain? Here, an aerial view of the historic Portsmouth Naval Base.