

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10

BY TRANSPORTATION AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1  
2 TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS  
3 ASSEMBLED, TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF  
4 IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE  
5 AIR FORCE.

6 We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of  
7 the State of Idaho assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth  
8 Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

9 WHEREAS, the state of Idaho is proud of its military installations and  
10 the dedicated men and women who offer their service to keep our country safe.  
11 The Idaho National Guard, composed of the Air National Guard and the Army Na-  
12 tional Guard, is the fourth largest employer in the state; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States Air Force has had a presence in Idaho for more  
14 than 56 years, with numerous facilities, including Mountain Home Air Force  
15 Base and Boise's Gowen Field. Mountain Home Air Force Base is one of the pre-  
16 mier training ranges in the nation and Boise's Gowen Field is the only Na-  
17 tional Guard facility focused on providing Total Joint Force training in the  
18 region; and

19 WHEREAS, following approval of Joint Strike Fighter basing criteria for  
20 both training and operational bases for the new F-35 missions by the Secre-  
21 tary of the Air Force, Mountain Home Air Force Base was selected as a finalist  
22 as an operational base and Boise's Gowen Field was selected as a finalist as a  
23 training base; and

24 WHEREAS, southern Idaho's climate is well suited to the F-35 missions,  
25 with more than 321 flyable days per year. Idaho's facilities provide am-  
26 ple and unhindered training airspace close to installations, enabling more  
27 training time with less fuel consumption and Idaho's facilities are unencum-  
28 bered by the encroachment of civilian land use, lowering the environmental  
29 impact on surrounding communities; and

30 WHEREAS, Idaho facilities each have the capacity to support at least  
31 three squadrons, including runway space, ramp space, personnel housing and  
32 maintenance and hangar bays necessary to accommodate the missions; and

33 WHEREAS, Idaho communities are patriotic, support their military in-  
34 stallations and would welcome the new F-35 missions.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-  
36 sion of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the  
37 Senate concurring therein, that we urge the United States Air Force to select  
38 Idaho for its F-35 missions.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representa-  
40 tives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this  
41 Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Repre-  
42 sentatives of Congress, the congressional delegation representing the State

1 of Idaho in the Congress of the United States and the Secretary of the United  
2 States Air Force.