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COUNTY OF KINGS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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May 20, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Appropriations Committee H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Re: Kings County Support for the F-35 Aircraft Maintenance Hangar Addition at NAS Lemoore

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

On behalf of the Kings County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our strong support for the \$5 million Community Project Funding (CPF) request for the planning and design of the F-35 Aircraft Maintenance Hangar Addition at Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore.

This important project, formerly known as the Tactical Surrogate Hangar, will expand an existing hangar and provide essential airfield pavements, taxiways, operational storage, support infrastructure, flight line security, fencing, road extensions, and parking for the F-35 fleet's operational squadrons. These upgrades are vital to supporting the mission-essential operations, training, and maintenance requirements of the F-35C, the Navy's most advanced fighter aircraft. Without this investment, NAS Lemoore will be unable to fully support the operational demands of the fleet, potentially compromising readiness and effectiveness.

As the West Coast home for the F-35C, NAS Lemoore plays a critical role in the Navy's mission, and the need for modern, purpose-built maintenance and support facilities has become increasingly urgent as the fleet continues to expand. This project will not only improve operational readiness but also provide significant economic benefits to Kings County and the surrounding region, supporting local jobs and driving economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require additional information. Should you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact Hasan Sarsour, Kings County Federal Representative, at 202-898-1444, or at <a href="mailto:hsearcoom/hee/to-searcoo

Sincerely,

Doug Verboon, Chairman

Kings County Board of Supervisors