

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GOVERNOR'S MILITARY COUNCIL

HON. ELLEN TAUSCHER, CHAIR



EDMUND G. BROWN, JR.
GOVERNOR

May 15, 2014

California Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of California Governor Brown, we serve on the Governor's Military Council to support military, national security and aerospace operations in California. Our bipartisan group, comprised of retired flag officers, civic leaders and state legislators, works to underscore the unique national security value of California installations. We also work to strengthen California's support for military operations in our state.

We write to request your support for funding in the Fiscal Year 2015 defense appropriations bill to procure 22 EA-18G Growlers. The Navy has recently submitted the requirement for 22 Growlers in its unfunded priorities list, which indicates the importance of this appropriation that was not included under the tight limitations of the Department of Defense's base budget submission. Your support for procurement of this aircraft, which provides the U.S. Navy critical airborne electronic attack capabilities, advances an important element of national defense and supports California's aerospace industry.

The EA-18G Growler is our nation's only aircraft that provides full spectrum electronic warfare capability for the U.S. Armed Services. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Jonathan Greenert have testified to Congress that the aircraft's role in controlling the electromagnetic spectrum is critical to our future warfighting mission. Recognizing the importance of this aircraft, Congress added \$75 million in advanced procurement funding for EA-18G Growlers in Fiscal Year 2014.

California manufacturers are responsible for much of the EA-18G program, which generates \$1 billion of economic impact across 274 businesses throughout the state. The current production line of this aircraft supports 20,000 jobs in the state. It has consistently delivered aircraft on schedule and on budget.

Without further Congressional action, the EA-18G Growler line will be forced to close after Fiscal Year 2016, ending our nation's only full-spectrum electronic warfare aircraft production line and leaving our military without this critical national defense capability. This cancellation would leave our military short of its joint electronic attack requirement and, if needed, make future procurement of these critical assets virtually impossible.

We respectfully urge you to take action to protect the EA-18G Growler program as an essential element of our national security strategy, and an important contributor to California's labor

force. Californians have played a vital role in developing this unique capability for our warfighters. Allowing the production line to close will reduce our national security, significantly increase future federal spending to regain this military capability, and harm the significant investment already made to create California's uniquely skilled aerospace workforce.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have questions about this letter, please contact Andreas Mueller, Chief of Federal Policy, California Military Department, at 202-734-1478 or andreas.mueller7.nfg@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

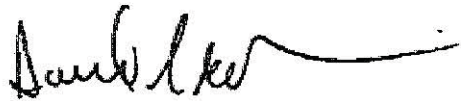
Members of the Governor's Military Council



Honorable Ellen O. Tauscher
Chair, Governor's Military Council




Alice Astafan
Major General, United States Air Force (Ret.)



David S. Baldwin
Major General, United States Army
Adjutant General, California Military Department



Thomas R. Berard
Senior Executive, Department of the Air Force (Ret.)



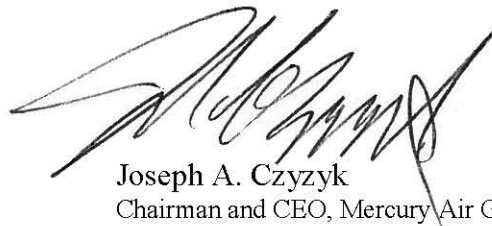
Jody Breckenridge
Vice Admiral, United States Coast Guard (Ret.)



Rocky Chavez
Assemblymember, 76th Assembly District
Colonel, United States Marine Corps (Ret.)



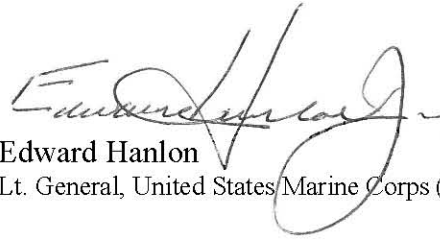
Honorable Philip E. Coyle III



Joseph A. Czyzyk
Chairman and CEO, Mercury Air Group



Charles A. Giacchi
Senior Executive, Department of the Navy (Ret.)



Edward Hanlon
Lt. General, United States Marine Corps (Ret.)



Anthony Jackson
Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
Major General, United States Marine Corps (Ret.)



James Johnson
Rear Admiral, United States Navy (Ret.)



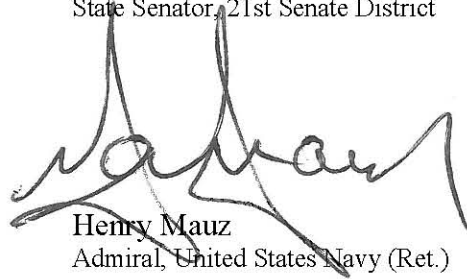
Dennis Kenneally
Major General, United States Army (Ret.)



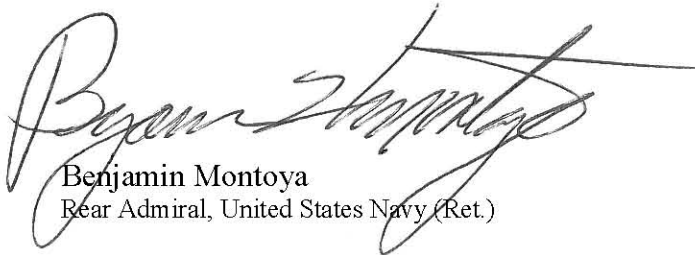
Stephen Knight
State Senator, 21st Senate District



Dr. Mary E. Lyons
President, University of San Diego



Henry Mauz
Admiral, United States Navy (Ret.)



Benjamin Montoya
Rear Admiral, United States Navy (Ret.)



Al Muratsuchi
Assemblymember, 66th Assembly District



Richard Roth
State Senator, 31st Senate District
Major General, United States Air Force (Ret.)



Eugene Tattini
Lieutenant General, United States Air Force (Ret.)