

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 29, 2024

The Honorable Frank Kendall III
Secretary of the Air Force
U.S. Department of Defense
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

General David Wayne Allvin
Chief of Staff of the Air Force
U.S. Department of Defense
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear Secretary Kendall and General Allvin:

We write regarding our support for the new Information Dominance Systems Center¹ within Air Force Material Command to be co-located at Hanscom Air Force Base (AFB) in Massachusetts, with the Air Force's Program Executive Offices (PEOs) for Command, Control, Communications and Battle Management (C3BM), PEO Command, Control, Communications and Network Directorate (C3I&N), PEO Digital Directorate, and PEO Nuclear Command, Control and Communications (NC3). As you implement the 'Reoptimization for Great Power Competition' initiative² and consider the location for the new Air Force Information Dominance Systems Center, we urge you to fully take into account the existing mission at Hanscom AFB, and the innovation ecosystem centered in Massachusetts, which includes the Commonwealth's vast network of academic institutions, federally funded research and development centers (FFRDC), and cutting edge private sector research and development.

We appreciate the Department of Defense's (DoD) investments in Hanscom and the surrounding community, including the establishment of the nation's second Defense Innovation Unit³ and recapitalization at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Lincoln Laboratory.⁴ MIT's Artificial Intelligence Accelerator is also helping the Air Force to "enable rapid prototyping, scaling, and the ethical application of AI algorithms and systems to advance both the Department of the Air Force and society in general."⁵ We are proud that the talent, educational systems—both for continuing higher education and top schools for the children of the Air Force's military and civilian personnel—and real opportunities for innovation partnerships exist in Massachusetts

¹ U.S. Air Force Material Command, "DAF calls for AFMC changes to support service's readiness, agility against great power adversaries," April 8, 2024, <https://www.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/3733602/daf-calls-for-afmc-changes-to-support-services-readiness-agility-against-great/>.

² U.S. Air Force, "Reoptimizing for Great Power Competition," <https://www.af.mil/reoptimization-for-great-power-competition/>.

³ U.S. Department of Defense, "Secretary Carter Opens DIUx Location in Boston, Updates DoD Outreach to Tech Community," press release, July 26, 2016, <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/857717/secretary-carter-opens-second-diux-location-in-boston-updates-dod-outreach-to-t/>.


⁴ Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory, "New facilities will keep Lincoln Laboratory at the forefront of advanced prototyping," Kylie Foy, April 1, 2019, <https://www.ll.mit.edu/news/new-facilities-will-keep-lincoln-laboratory-forefront-advanced-prototyping>.

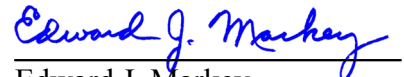
⁵ DAF AI Accelerator, "About Us," <https://www.aiaccelerator.af.mil/About-Us/>.


like no other location, and urge you to consider Hanscom AFB as the location of the Information Dominance Systems Center.


The Massachusetts delegation looks forward to collaborating with you as you begin to implement your plan, and thanks you for your consideration of this request.


Sincerely,



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

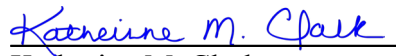

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress


Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress

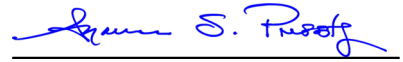

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress


Seth Moulton
Member of Congress


William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress