

Portland, Ore. – Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) issued the following statement in response to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission’s vote to keep the Air National Guard 142nd Fighter Wing at the Portland Air Base:

“I am elated that our Oregon Air National Guard will continue ensuring the safety of our region’s skies. I was proud to be part of a united effort from our entire congressional delegation and our governor, making a vigorous case to keep this vital regional and national asset on the job.

“However, the real credit for the Commission’s decision goes to the outstanding men and women in Oregon’s Air National Guard. Their superior performance made the case to keep the Fighter Wing more eloquently than words or charts and graphs ever could. From the pilots to the maintenance crews to the Guard’s top cadre, the 142nd Fighter Wing is truly a national treasure which will continue to stand guard for us. This is a proud day for Oregon and the country.”

The BRAC Commission makes its formal recommendations to the President by September 8th. The President and then Congress will take final action on the recommendations later this year.