



1 CHAMBER PLAZA
FIFTH & MAIN STREETS
DAYTON, OHIO 45402
www.daytonchamber.org

June 2, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner
U.S. Speaker of the House
1011 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce urges you to support the continued full funding for the production of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter. Right now, in these tough economic times, we support projects that are economic catalysts for our community and state, and the F-35 is one such project. The profound impact the development of this fighter is having in Ohio, in addition to the contributions this fighter will make to our nation's national security, make it a worthy investment.

F-35 development is having a nearly \$400 million economic impact here in Ohio. Nearly 4,400 skilled workers are contributing to the production of components for the F-35 fighter. Over 40 Ohio manufacturers are creating parts and components for the F-35. The direct and indirect benefits of this program make it a major boon to our economy.

A major part of our community is the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Right now, our airmen at Wright-Patterson are engaged in a large portion of the ongoing testing of the F-35 fighter. This base is a crucial part of the Greater Dayton area's economic engine, as are some of the businesses engaged in the production of F-35 components.

Finally, the F-35 will contribute immensely to our nation's national security. A unique and groundbreaking aircraft, the F-35 is a stealth-capable multirole fighter, with air-to-air, air-to-ground, surveillance and command and control capabilities. With the most advanced weapons systems on the planet, the F-35 will allow the United States to maintain military superiority over emerging threats around the globe.

We understand hard decisions are being made every day in regards to our country's fiscal crisis. At the same time, we believe it is vitally important we keep our country's military equipped with the best tools possible. You have a unique opportunity to provide one of those tools while continuing to fund an economic catalyst for Ohio and our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CK", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Kershner
VP, Public Policy & Economic Development
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce