

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 14, 2025

The Honorable Pete Hegseth  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Hegseth,


We write in support of the development of a future Eastern Continental United States Interceptor Site (CIS), as authorized by the Fiscal Year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act and pursuant to the Iron Dome for America Executive Order issued on January 27, 2025, at Fort Custer Training Center, located in Augusta, Michigan.

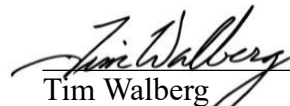
Previously designated as a finalist by the Missile Defense Agency's 2019 Assessment for an Eastern CIS, Fort Custer was determined to be the most cost-effective option with the least environmental impact on the surrounding ecosystem. This shovel-ready location should serve as a preferential option for the U.S. taxpayer as Congress and the Trump Administration look to implement more fiscally responsible decision-making. The Department of Defense should undertake a review and redetermination of this site to protect America's national interest.

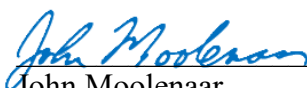
Since 1917, Fort Custer has played an integral part in training our Armed forces for vital national security missions. Currently, the site hosts Army National Guard assets, missions, and year-round training. Now, in 2025, considering the evolving warfighter landscape, Fort Custer remains uniquely capable of meeting our nation's unmet homeland defense needs.

From world-class training grounds to a well-established military community, Michigan is poised to take on a greater role and contribute to the Armed Forces' fight against our global adversaries. As you complete your reference architecture, capabilities-based requirements, and an implementation plan for the next-generation missile defense shield, we urge you to fully and appropriately consider Fort Custer as the future home of America's most consequential mission.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress

  
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Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

  
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John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress

  
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Tom Barrett  
Member of Congress