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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY & COMMERCE  
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NATURAL RESOURCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER, WILDLIFE,  
AND FISHERIES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL LANDS

March 13, 2026

The Honorable John Carter  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Military Construction,  
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Military Construction,  
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Carter and Ranking Member Wasserman Schultz

I respectfully submit this request for a Community Funded Project in the amount of \$80,000,000 for the construction of an Academic Training Center at Kingsley Field Air National Guard Base, 211 Arnold Ave. Bldg. A, Klamath Falls, Oregon, 97603 on behalf of the 173d Fighter Wing.

Kingsley Field's upcoming F-35 Mission will make it a cornerstone of the nation's fifth generation fighter readiness, responsible for preparing the next generation of fighter pilots for operational squadrons across the United States and allied forces. As the demand for qualified F-35 pilots continues to increase, the installation requires modern training infrastructure capable of supporting the advanced simulation technologies that are central to fifth generation aircraft training.

The proposed Academic Training Center will provide six simulator bays capable of supporting four Full Mission Simulators and eight Multi Mission Rehearsal Trainers, as well as both secure and collateral classroom space for academic instruction. These capabilities will allow pilots to conduct high fidelity mission rehearsal and integrated academic training in a purpose built environment designed to meet current operational and security requirements.

Investment in this facility represents a fiscally responsible approach to sustaining pilot training capacity. Expanding simulator based instruction reduces reliance on costly live flight hours, lowering fuel consumption, minimizing aircraft wear, and improving training throughput while maintaining the high standards required for combat readiness.

This project will ensure that Kingsley Field remains a premier training location for the nation's fifth generation fighter force. I appreciate the Committee's consideration of this request and your continued support of the men and women serving in the Air National Guard.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 10 U.S.C. Chapter 169 and the National Defense Authorization Act.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

I appreciate the Committee's consideration of this request and your continued support of the men and women serving in the Air National Guard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cliff Bentz", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress