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## Senate of Pennsylvania

## 25TH DISTRICT SENATOR CRIS DUSH

May 08, 2023

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Brig Gen Jori A. Robinson 175<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander, Maryland Air National Guard 2701 Eastern Blvd Middle River, MS 21220

The Honorable Cris Dush Senate Box 203025 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear BRIG GEN Robinson,

Please allow me to introduce myself. I am the Commonwealth Senator representing Pennsylvania Senate District-25, the district that includes your proposed Duke low-MOA. Prior to being elected a Commonwealth senator, I was a Representative for the 66<sup>th</sup> District in north-central Pennsylvania for six years. I was active-duty Air Force from 1982 through 1990 after which time I was in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. I worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections and am in my third year as a senator.

I am writing about the proposed military training airspace – the Duke low-MOA over the Pennsylvania Wilds conservation and recreation area that your wing is currently in the process of completing its public comment period for the Environmental Assessment. As you know, because the EA determined that there was a Finding of No Significant Impact, the 175<sup>th</sup> does not need to accomplish an Environmental Impact Study (EIS). I disagree with the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) decision and am formally requesting an EIS be completed.

Although I am the first to support our military, this is a situation where I do not believe the 175<sup>th</sup> Wing has done its due diligence in looking at the impact of the proposal and possible alternatives for flying the low-level training that is proposed.

Therefore, I am requesting a full EIS be accomplished because of the list of concerns enumerated in the attachment. I would like to bring to your attention that if this proposal is approved, I believe it should be Pennsylvanians who control access to the proposed Duke low-

MOA. This would allow a balance in meeting the needs of the Wilds with events such as Dark Sky, nature-appreciation, education, and tourism and the needs of the 175<sup>th</sup> flight operations to include currency training.

For you information, I will also be addressing the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania National Guard, federal and local representatives, and other concerned groups with reference to this issue.

Should you want to meet and discuss this, I would be available vis electronic or telephonic capability, but will not be able to travel due to the Pennsylvania General Assembly being in session.

May God Bless America,

Cris Dush

State Senator – 25<sup>th</sup> District

1 Attachment DRL/drl