

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 13, 2019

National Guard Association of the United States
One Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

To the NGAUS Selection Committee,

As members of the State of Michigan Congressional Delegation, we are proud that the city of Detroit is under consideration to host the 146th National Guard Association of the United States' General Conference & Exhibition in 2024.

The city of Detroit is the heartbeat of the state of Michigan, and as one of the top 25 largest American cities, it is home to more than a half a million residents. Detroit is a city of global economic reach, with a remarkable past and undeniably bright future. The greater Detroit area is the birthplace of the American automotive industry, which has long had ties to American defense – most notably, the Detroit Arsenal, which maintained a dual production line during World War Two to support commercial auto production along with the war effort.

Today, Detroit is home to major national corporations and has attracted significant economic development in cutting edge technologies, including from industry leaders like Amazon and Google. By 2024, Detroit will also be home to a unique "Center of Innovation" sponsored by the University of Michigan, connecting world-class research with entrepreneurial activity in the City of Detroit. The city's 2.4 million square-foot TCF Convention Center, backdropped by the Detroit River, is an ideal, world-class venue for the 146th NGAUS General Conference & Exhibition.

The State of Michigan takes great pride in its National Guard. With five National Guard installations in our state and around 11,000 Michiganders currently serving in the Michigan National Guard, we understand the critical importance of supporting the men, women, and families of our National Guard. The unique geography of Michigan – with large areas of open airspace over land and water – have long made our state a top choice for multi-domain exercises, including the National Guard sponsored military exercise "Northern Strike" which brings more than 6,000 Army, Air Force, Marines, Navy, and Coast Guard servicemembers from 20 states and multiple NATO allies countries to Michigan for a high-end joint operation every year. Michigan is also home to Camp Grayling, which – at over 145,000 acres – serves as the largest National Guard training center in the country. We have a thriving defense industry in our state, that employs over 142,000 residents and contributes over \$13 billion to the state's economy.

Members of our Delegation are well-represented on defense-related committees in the U.S. Congress, including the Senate Committee on Armed Services, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, House Committee on Armed Services, House Committee on Appropriations, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, and the House Committee on Homeland Security. We are proud of the role that Michigan plays in training the men and women of our National Guard in support of our Nation's defense. We are excited to showcase what our state has to offer at the 146th NGAUS General Conference & Exhibition, and to welcome you the great city of Detroit.

Sincerely,



Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



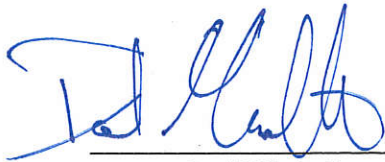
Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



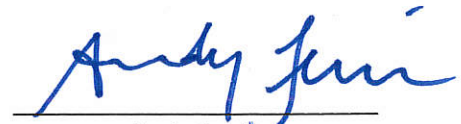
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Paul Mitchell
Member of Congress



Andy Levin
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Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



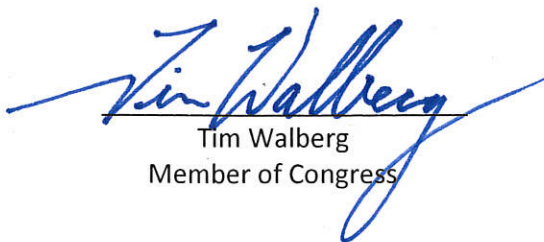
John Moolenaar
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Jack Bergman
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Bill Huizenga
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Haley M. Stevens
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