



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

February 24, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to join the growing number of governors who are urging you to sustain 95,000 existing American jobs by certifying continued production of the F-22 Raptor – a defense program that is as critical to our economy as it is to our national security.

The F-22 program is an important economic engine for thousands of good-paying, highly-skilled jobs in Texas and other states. These jobs will be critical to our economic recovery over the next two years. Production of the F-22 involves more than 1,000 employers in almost every state in the nation, and is expected to generate almost \$25 billion in economic activity over the next 24 months.

The F-22 Raptor is capable of defeating any enemy aircraft or surface-to-air missile that threatens our forces or our allies. It is the centerpiece U.S. Air Force strategy for the defense of our country in the future. The Air Force Chief of Staff just last week confirmed that he would seek an additional 60 of these aircraft in addition to the 183 already on order to meet challenges around the globe.

As you assess whether to continue production of the F-22 Raptor, please consider carefully the potential economic impact of your decision. This F-22 is a model program – efficient, on budget and ahead of schedule. You would be challenged to identify a military production program that works as well and returns as much value to the taxpayer as the F-22.

I respectfully request that you continue the production of this critical aircraft and allow its manufacturers and suppliers to continue their contributions to the economic strength of our country.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature of Rick Perry in black ink.
Rick Perry
Governor

RP:kpg

POST OFFICE BOX 12428 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512)463-2000 (VOICE)/DIAL 7-1-1 FOR RELAY SERVICES

VISIT WWW.TEXASONLINE.COM THE OFFICIAL WEB SITE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS