

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 24, 2023

Paul Rosen
Assistant Secretary for Investment Security
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Assistant Secretary Rosen:

We write to request you add Whiteman Air Force Base located near Knob Noster, Missouri, to the recently published rule¹ that would amend real estate transactions pursuant to section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 and review transactions by a foreign person from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS).

As you may know, Whiteman Air Force Base is home to the B-2 bomber and future home of the B-21 bomber. The next generation B-21 will be the backbone of our future bomber force and a crucial asset to projecting American air power and deterrence. The proposed rule from CFIUS included several installations that will either house or are currently building the B-21 including Air Force Plant 42, Ellsworth Air Force Base, and Dyess Air Force Base. However, Whiteman Air Force Base was not included in this list despite being the second preferred location to receive the B-21. Whiteman Air Force base is critical to our national defense and we believe this is an oversight that should be corrected.

Considering the threats we face from China and other adversaries it's imperative that we protect our military installations from surveillance and espionage efforts². The Department of Defense has worked for years to keep the B-21 program protected against China and other adversaries. We want to ensure this vital program remains protected and foreign adversaries should not be able to buy up land unchecked around military installations.

For these reasons, we urge you to amend the rule and add Whiteman Air Force Base to the list of installations to which CFIUS has the authority to prevent foreign individuals from purchasing land near this premier military base.

¹ Provisions Pertaining to Certain Transactions by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/05/05/2023-09259/provisions-pertaining-to-certain-transactions-by-foreign-persons-involving-real-estate-in-the-united>

² US to control land sales to foreigners near 8 military bases
<https://apnews.com/article/china-bomber-spying-cfius-bases-68c3945b8cddb242fbaf3dd88d659021>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Alford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Mark Alford
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric Schmitt". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with a large, prominent initial "E" and a long, sweeping tail.

Eric Schmitt
U.S. Senator

CC:

Lloyd J. Austin III
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Frank Kendall
Secretary of the Air Force
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General Charles Q. Brown Jr.
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