

Washington, DC- Congressman Steve King released the following statement after voting against the Conference Report for the Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) today because of a provision that removes the strategically important and valuable Iowa Air National Guard 132nd Fighter Wing from Des Moines, Iowa. King is an original co-sponsor of Congressman Tom Latham's bill, the Stop Unjustified Cuts to the Air Guard Act, which will require sufficient justification for making cuts to the Air National Guard in Des Moines.

"This year's NDAA eliminates 21 F-16 Fighters from the Air National Guard's 132nd Fighter Wing in Des Moines. These cuts are not based on our nation's strategic needs or a thorough cost benefit analysis." said King. "The version of the NDAA that the House and Senate passed in March would have prevented this, but this new version of the NDAA disregards the expressed will of majorities of both houses of Congress. It is ultimately more cost effective and strategically sound to keep the 132nd Fighter Wing's F-16s in Des Moines, so I will be unable to support passage of the 2013 NDAA Conference Report.