

**Air Force Association of New Jersey, [www.njairforceassoc.org](http://www.njairforceassoc.org)**



11 Beech Drive  
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To: New Jersey AFA Members

Subject: Support for Air Power and NJ AFA Activities

Since 1946, the Air Force Association has worked to educate the public about the critical role of aerospace power in national defense. Yearly, the Association develops a position on what it considers to be the top issues. This year under the category of “Recapitalizing the Aging Fleet” is the following position: **“Commit to a higher production rate of F-35s to prevent a fighter deficit.”** In this period of declining defense budgets, I urge your support for higher production rates of the F-35 to ensure the country’s future airpower superiority.

Within New Jersey, I urge your support of your affiliated chapter by attending their meetings and supporting their programs. Many AFA programs support STEM education at the high school levels with Aerospace Education Grants, ‘Visions’ teacher aids, CyberPatriot computer defense competition, AF ROTC instructor grants, and Chapter and State Teacher of the Year awards. Chapter 195 supports two Civil Air Patrol squadrons with \$500.00 Aerospace Education grants each year. Chapter 360, the Thomas B. McGuire, Jr. Chapter, supports Air Force enlisted education awards and other programs related to being located on an active duty USAF base.

Please join us in supporting the many worthwhile AFA programs that can contribute in making our country’s defense more secure through support of air power and in the development of our youth through support of STEM related programs. If you have trouble finding a chapter or are unaffiliated with a chapter, please call me, 973-540-1283, and I’ll help you get acquainted with one.

Cordially,

<signed>

Howard H. Leach, Jr.

President, Air Force Association of New Jersey