

The Honorable Austin Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
2185 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2026

Congressman Scott,

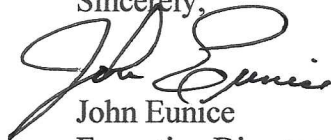
Thank you for all our do for our nation, the great State of Georgia, Lowndes County, and Moody Air Force Base. Your support over the years continues to make a critical difference in all we do to support our service members, their families, the communities that support them, and the installations they operate. I am writing to request your support to fund the construction of the 23d Security Forces Squadron Military Working Dog Flight Operations Facility.

Moody houses one of the largest populations of military working dogs in the Air Force. These dogs are valued at over \$100,000 each. The current facility housing these critical military assets is grossly inadequate and reduces the readiness of the unit and the working dogs. The working dog facility is over 20 years old and the individual kennels housing the dogs are less than a quarter of the required size. The kennels do not allow handlers adequate access for inspections and cleaning without the potential of the handlers becoming trapped and injured by the dogs. In addition, the substandard conditions frequently create an unsanitary environment for the dogs, resulting in injury, illness, and early retirement of the very working dogs the squadron relies on to execute their mission. In more extreme situations, these conditions led to working dogs suffering amputated tails and damaged paws, with incidents of life-threatening infections such as MRSA having also been recorded. The current conditions provide no space for veterinary treatment or quarantine, inadequate food storage and food preparation space needed to feed the dogs, and undersized administrative space for assigned personnel and their equipment.

These conditions will continue to negatively impact the life, health and safety of the working dogs and their handlers. The facility will continue to degrade and increase the risk of disease and injuries. Losing military working dogs hampers the mission of the 820th Base Defense Group, the Air Force's only "outside the wire" security force and a constant deployment tempo, and the 23d Security Forces Squadron, a fully deployable unit tasked with global requirements, along with frequent working dog and handler taskings for Very Important Personnel Protection Support Activity for the President, Vice President, United Nations General Assembly and other similar events. The training and accession pipeline for these canines is not short or easy, with replacements not readily available. The loss of even one dog ripples through the entire security forces enterprise.

The design of the new facility is 100% complete and ready for award. I respectfully request your support to ensure funding this year for this critical facility.

Sincerely,



John Eunice
Executive Director
Moody Support Group