

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR
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The Honorable Secretary Noem
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2801 Nebraska Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Noem,

I write today to express why I believe Florida locations should be strongly considered in the United States Coast Guard's efforts to identify a new training facility pursuant to its "Request for Information (RFI)/Market Research to Acquire A Training Facility"¹

Florida is home to a massive military presence that plays a critical role in strengthening our nation's security with 21 military bases and three combatant commands. The Sunshine State has a proven military infrastructure, available capacity, and strong interagency partnerships, and I am committed to ensuring that it remains at the forefront of military readiness.

At a time when the Coast Guard is attempting to meet increasing military demands, Florida is proud to offer not only land and infrastructure, but communities that deeply value the Coast Guard's mission. The Sunshine State offers Coasties and their families the best chance for a boost in morale in their personal lives given our lack of state income tax, military pension exemptions, numerous VA facilities, and a high appreciation rate in home values and affordability. Our people, military installations, and state leadership all stand united behind the goal of strengthening America's readiness and ensuring that the next generation of Coast Guard recruits receives the world-class training they deserve.

¹ <https://sam.gov/workspace/contract/opp/479f86be068f44878390b1512fd7e7ea/view>

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As you consider proposals under the RFI, we welcome you to visit the great State of Florida to see first-hand all that it has to offer. Thank you for your steadfast commitment to protecting the homeland and strengthening the Service at this critical time. I look forward to working with you as the Coast Guard advances its mission - and I am confident that Florida offers the best possible home for this new training facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Moody". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ashley" and last name "Moody" clearly distinguishable.

Ashley Moody
U.S. Senator for Florida

Cc:

Adm. Kevin E. Lunday
Peter C. Spinella