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## **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

August 13, 2025

The Honorable Thom Tillis  
United States Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Tillis,

On behalf of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners, I write to urge your strong opposition to the proposed closure of the 82d Airborne Division War Memorial Museum at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

This museum is vital to our community and our nation. As the second oldest U.S. Army Museum, it preserves the legacy of the "All American" Division from 1917 to present day. The museum serves over 50,000 annual visitors and generates more than \$40 million in economic impact for Cumberland County through tourism, benefiting our hotels, restaurants, and local businesses.

Cumberland County is home to one of North Carolina's largest veteran populations, many of whom served with the 82d Airborne Division. For these veterans and their families, this museum is more than history—it is a sacred place that honors their service and preserves their legacy. The museum houses granite memorials honoring every fallen paratrooper and serves as an essential educational resource connecting past and present generations of soldiers. The 82d Airborne Division Historical Society has invested decades of support, including funding the current building.

Cumberland County stands firmly with our military community in preserving this irreplaceable institution. The museum ensures that the service and sacrifice of America's paratroopers will be remembered with the honor they deserve.

We respectfully request your public statement of support to keep the 82d Airborne Division War Memorial Museum open and operational.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

Kirk deViere  
Chairman  
Cumberland County Board of Commissioners