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GUARD CUTS: Governor Branstad weighs in on some controversial cuts to the Iowa Air Guard

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WHO Staff Writer
7:34 p.m. CST, February 6, 2012

The governor is voicing his concerns about proposal to decommission an Iowa Air Guard unit, based at the Des Moines International Airport.

The Department of Defense wants to shut down the 132nd Fighter Wing.

The unit employs 1000 people.

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Monday, Governor **Terry Branstad** says he's working with Iowa's congressional delegation, along with other governors, to try to keep the positions in Des Moines.

He calls the idea to close the unit a big mistake.

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This fighter unit in Des Moines has had a tremendous record of service and they are outstanding. As I understand it, they're the only fighter unit in the country that's being targeted to be replaced."

The idea to cut the unit and replace it with unmanned drones is part of the Air Force plan to trim nearly \$9 billion.

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