

THE GREEN WIRE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Missouri Senate Adopts Sen. Green's Resolution Condemning the Actions of the U.S. Air Force Regarding Boeing

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Senate has adopted a resolution offered by Sen. Tim Green, D-Spanish Lake, condemning the actions of the United States Air Force in awarding the contract for replacing the refueling tanker fleet to a non-American company.

Recently, the U.S. Air Force announced one of the largest military acquisition programs in U.S. history, saying the service had chosen Northrop Grumman over Boeing to replace its aging air refueling tanker fleet.

Members of the Missouri General Assembly have expressed shock that the United States Air Force selected a European company and its foreign workers to provide a tanker to our American military.

“At a time when the U.S. economy is hurting, this decision to outsource U.S. tankers is a blow to the American aerospace industry, American workers and America's military,” said Sen. Green. “Boeing has 75 years of experience building tankers, and its workers are the best in the world. It's stunning that the U.S. Air Force would outsource the production of these airplanes to Europe instead of building them in America.”

Missouri workers rely on a thriving U.S. aerospace industry and awarding the contract to Boeing, and not Airbus, would have created more than 44,000 jobs in Washington, Kansas, and other states.

This decision was about whether U.S. workers or European workers will produce the aircraft used as tankers for the U.S. Air Force for decades into the future. The Boeing tanker takes advantage of 50 years of aerial refueling technology experience, and the KC-767 Advance Tanker is the best aircraft for the job. Sen. Green and his colleagues say it makes sense for U.S. military aircraft programs, which are funded by American taxpayer dollars, to be designed and built by American companies that provide jobs to U.S. citizens

Approving the Boeing KC-767 Advanced Tanker would have given our men and women in the U.S. Air Force the best product with the most advanced technology available today. Missouri is home to the Boeing Integrated Defense Systems team, Phantom Works - Boeing's advanced research and development unit, and Boeing's Shared Services Group.

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