

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, members of the Missouri General Assembly are shocked that the United States Air Force selected a European company and its foreign workers to provide a tanker to our American military; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, Boeing has 75 years of experience building tankers, and its workers are the best in the world; and

WHEREAS, it's stunning that the U.S. Air Force would outsource the production of these airplanes to Europe instead of building them in America; and

WHEREAS, Missouri workers rely on a thriving U.S. aerospace industry; and

WHEREAS, awarding the contract to Boeing, and not Airbus, would have created more than 44,000 jobs in Washington, Kansas, and other states; and

WHEREAS, 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 in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Boeing tanker takes advantage of 50 years of aerial refueling technology experience; and

WHEREAS, the KC-767 Advance Tanker is the best aircraft for the job. 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; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is home to Boeing Integrated Defense Systems team, Phantom Works, Boeing's advanced research and development unit, and Boeing's Shared Services Group:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-Fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby condemn the actions of the United States Air Force in outsourcing jobs by failing to award the contract to replace the refueling tanker fleet to an American company; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly calls upon the members of the Missouri congressional delegation to ask tough questions to the U.S. Air Force regarding how it reached this decision, including the selection process used to make this decision; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution to each member of the Missouri congressional delegation and the Secretary of the Air Force.