

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1621

By Senators Morris and Hensley, Allen, Apple, Barnett, Barone, Betts, Brownlee, Bruce, Brungardt, Donovan, Emler, Francisco, Gilstrap, Goodwin, Haley, Huelskamp, Jordan, Journey, Kelly, Lee, Lynn, McGinn, Ostmeyer, Palmer, Petersen, Pine, Pyle, Reitz, D. Schmidt, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger, Vratil, Wagle, Wilson and Wysong

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14 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging Congress and the President
15 of the United States to halt the contract process for the Air Force mid-
16 air refueling tanker until Congress and the President have reviewed
17 and approved all the technical, security and economic aspects of the
18 purchase.

19
20 WHEREAS, The Air Force needs a proven and adaptable refueling
21 tanker aircraft to support the war fighters of today and tomorrow; and

22 WHEREAS, The Boeing Company has been building and maintaining
23 refueling tankers for 75 years and has more experience building tankers
24 than any other company on earth; and

25 WHEREAS, The Boeing KC-767 is flying today while the competing
26 European-designed Airbus tanker is not flying or refueling today; and

27 WHEREAS, The KC-767 meets or exceeds all Air Force require-
28 ments, including range and fuel offload capabilities, and mission flexibility
29 for carrying patients, passengers and material; and

30 WHEREAS, The KC-767 is interoperable with 99% of the Air Force's
31 existing equipment, saving an estimated \$4 billion in lifecycle costs, and
32 operates from existing infrastructure throughout the world saving the ex-
33 pense of costly runway, tarmac and hanger expansion required for the
34 larger Airbus plane; and

35 WHEREAS, The Boeing tanker utilizes the most advanced technol-
36 ogy, including an unrivaled sixth generation boom with cutting edge con-
37 trols at increased fueling speeds. It has an advanced flight deck based on
38 modern 777 control, and the KC-767 can operate from many more bases
39 worldwide. The Airbus model is so large it cannot land at many critical
40 military bases, reducing its value as a military support asset; and

41 WHEREAS, The European-built tanker burns 24% more fuel while
42 flying, producing 30% higher emissions and an estimated \$14.6 billion
43 more in fuel costs over the life of the plane; and

1 WHEREAS, The American taxpayer will pay the bill for an untested
2 plane that will be manufactured in Europe and “finished” in a yet-to-be-
3 built facility in the United States, while the Boeing tankers would be built
4 on an existing assembly line in the United States and contain 85% Amer-
5 ican-made content; and

6 WHEREAS, The European manufacture of these critically important
7 tankers will be controlled by European governments including France
8 and Russia, giving Europeans 19,000 jobs that can and should be per-
9 formed by American workers; and

10 WHEREAS, Given the current state of the American economy, tax-
11 payer dollars should not be used to fund the economic growth of Euro-
12 pean countries, while the United States loses 44,000 quality jobs associ-
13 ated with the KC-767; and

14 WHEREAS, Our federal, state and local governments will lose billions
15 of dollars in potential taxes from the export of these well-paying jobs and
16 corporate gains made possible by the American taxpayer: Now, therefore,

17 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Rep-*
18 *resentatives concurring therein:* That the President of the United States
19 and the Congress halt the contract process for the Air Force mid-air
20 refueling tanker and are strongly urged to immediately and vigorously
21 investigate the proposed outsourcing of taxpayer-funded jobs, its impact
22 on the American economy and the procurement process that made pos-
23 sible this transfer of billions of dollars to foreign workers; and

24 *Be it further resolved:* That the President and Congress are urged to
25 investigate and thoroughly review the benefits, costs and national security
26 risks associated with contracting for the design and construction of high-
27 technology military equipment and systems in and by foreign nations
28 which may not always be attuned to American interests, objectives or
29 missions; and

30 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate provide an
31 enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the
32 Secretary of Defense, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate,
33 the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each
34 member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.