

HJR66 INTRODUCED



1 HJR66
2 46LXIR3-1
3 By Representatives Oliver, Paschal, Rehm, Wood (R), Treadaway,
4 Pettus, Robertson, Harrison, Hassell, McClammy
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 13-Feb-25



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HJR___ EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECAPITALIZATION OF THE KC-135 TO THE KC-46A FOR THE 117TH AIR REFUELING WING.

WHEREAS, the 117th Air Refueling Wing of the Alabama Air National Guard, based at Sumpter Smith Joint National Guard Base in Birmingham, plays a critical role in national defense, providing essential air refueling capabilities for the United States Air Force and allied forces worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the KC-135 Stratotanker, currently operated by the 117th Air Refueling Wing, has been a reliable platform for decades but is increasingly challenged by operational and maintenance limitations due to its age; and

WHEREAS, the recapitalization of the KC-135 to the KC-46A Pegasus represents a vital modernization effort to ensure the 117th Air Refueling Wing maintains its operational readiness and ability to meet current and future mission demands; and

WHEREAS, the KC-46A Pegasus offers advanced capabilities, including increased fuel capacity, improved communications, and enhanced interoperability, all of which are critical for maintaining the United States' strategic advantage and supporting global defense operations; and

WHEREAS, the 117th Air Refueling Wing's recapitalization aligns with Alabama's commitment to supporting national defense initiatives and highlights the



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29 state's strategic contributions to military readiness and
30 homeland security; and

31 WHEREAS, the recapitalization effort will not only
32 strengthen national security but also sustain and create
33 high-quality jobs in the Birmingham area, contributing to
34 the local and state economy; and

35 WHEREAS, the Alabama National Guard and members of
36 the Alabama congressional delegation have already
37 demonstrated strong support for this recapitalization,
38 including direct engagement with the Secretary of the Air
39 Force and the National Guard Bureau; and

40 WHEREAS, a formal joint resolution from the Alabama
41 Legislature will amplify the state's unified voice in
42 advocating for the recapitalization and underscore its
43 strategic importance to the Department of Defense; now
44 therefore,

45 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
46 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama Legislature
47 hereby expresses its full and unequivocal support for the
48 recapitalization of the KC-135 Stratotanker to the KC-46A
49 Pegasus for the 117th Air Refueling Wing at Sumpter Smith
50 Joint National Guard Base.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama Legislature
52 urges the United States Secretary of the Air Force, the
53 National Guard Bureau, and all other relevant federal
54 entities to prioritize and approve the recapitalization
55 effort.



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56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this
57 resolution be provided to the Alabama congressional
58 delegation, the Secretary of the Air Force, the Chief of the
59 National Guard Bureau, the Alabama National Guard, and the
60 leadership of the 117th Air Refueling Wing to convey the
61 Legislature's steadfast support for this critical
62 initiative.
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