

## Air Force Tanker Contracting Practices

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3 **WHEREAS** American taxpayers are outraged that the U.S. Government awarded a \$40  
4 billion contract to European based Airbus to build the U.S. Air Force air refueling  
5 tanker;

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7 **WHEREAS** a union member-built Boeing tanker would have provided over 9000 jobs in  
8 Washington State, over 44 thousand family wage jobs in America and \$400 million to  
9 our state's economy;

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11 **WHEREAS** the loss of the tanker contract to Airbus affects America's aerospace  
12 industry future and with the loss of America's aerospace manufacturing capacity our  
13 nation will have to rely on foreign countries to provide the military hardware needed to  
14 defend our nation;

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16 **WHEREAS** the U.S. Air Force switched the section criteria after the contract bids were  
17 submitted and that change better suited the Airbus bid and disadvantaged the Boeing  
18 proposal;

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20 **WHEREAS** the Airbus tanker's larger airframe will require billions of dollars in  
21 additional construction costs including expanding air bases, landing strips and new  
22 hangers;

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24 **WHEREAS** the Boeing tanker would require 24% less fuel (an estimated \$10 billion  
25 saving to taxpayers) and create 30% less greenhouse gases with a significant lessening  
26 of a global warming impact;

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28 **WHEREAS** Airbus has not yet built tankers in cooperation with Northrop/Grumman,  
29 the factory in Alabama has yet not been built, nor have 1500 skilled workers been hired  
30 or trained, workers needed to finish the Airbus tanker; and

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32 **WHEREAS** the U.S. Government has filed charges against the European governments  
33 for illegal subsidies which gave Airbus an unfair pricing advantage over Boeing;

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35 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central  
36 Committee go on record in support of withdrawing the appropriation for the Airbus  
37 tanker and a new contract competition be commenced which will factor in the  
38 American economy, American jobs, national defense implications, the strategic  
39 importance of an American aerospace industry, the impact of additional long-term  
40 operating costs to taxpayers, the impact on the environment, the illegal European  
41 subsidies to Airbus, and will create a fair and consistent selection criteria; and  
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43 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic  
44 Central Committee forward this resolution to the US President, the Washington State  
45 Delegation to the US Congress, the Washington State Legislature and the Governor.  
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48 Submitted by the 6<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats to the Democratic Central  
49 Committee for consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted  
50 3/19/2008)

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52 Submitted by the Spokane County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for  
53 consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/23/2008)

54  
55 Submitted by the Klickitat County Democrats to the Democratic Central Committee for  
56 consideration at its June 14 convention in Spokane. (Date Submitted 4/26/2008)

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58 The Resolutions Committee "AMENDED THIS RESOLUTION AND RECOMMENDED  
59 A PASS" at its May 31, 2008 meeting in Ellensburg.

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61 The Washington State Democratic Convention "PASSED" this resolution at its June 14,  
62 2008 meeting in Spokane.