

2013 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR 3012

2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HCR 3012
February 14, 2013
19003

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Concurrent resolution urging the US Air Force to select the Grand Forks Air Force Base as the active duty main operating base for the new KC-46A refueling tanker mission.

Minutes:

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Jim Kasper opened the hearing on HCR 3012.

Rep. Marie Strinden appeared in support. **Attachment 1. (Article from the Bismarck Tribune)** It says they will be visiting the Grand Forks Air Force Base at the end of February and making their decision this spring. I am wondering if it might be a good idea to put an emergency clause on this so that we send them the letter before the decision is made.

General David Sprynczynatyk, Adjutant General for the state of North Dakota, appeared in support of this resolution. As explained very well earlier, the selection of the Grand Forks Air Force Base as the site for the new KC-46 tankers is really important, not only for northeast ND but the state as a whole. The significance of tying in the ND Air National Guard is simply that one of the criteria that is being used in the selection process is that there will be an associated relationship between the active component and a National Guard unit. Obviously, the closest National Guard unit is the 119th wing in Fargo. Given the fact that right now we may be without a flying mission in the not too distant future, having the opportunity to participate as part of the tanker mission out of Grand Forks and Fargo really is critical to our future. The emergency clause is very important as well. Within the next ten days, the Air Force will be making a site visit to Grand Forks. I'll be there for part of it, and the intent is that the decision will be announced by May, so the sooner a resolution of support from the legislature can arrive upon the secretary's desk, the better.

John Jacobsen, ND Veterans Coordinating Council, appeared in support. **Attachment 2. (4:51-6:02)**

Steve Volk, State Commander of VFW, appeared in support. I am in charge of 13,000 members. I can remember years ago driving by that base when the tankers were there. This brings a lot of money into Grand Forks and a lot of money into the state.

There was no opposition.

The hearing was closed.

Rep. Vicky Steiner made a motion to add the emergency clause.

Rep. Karen Rohr seconded.

A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

Rep. Karen Rohr made a motion for a Do Pass as amended.

Rep. Karen Karls seconded.

A roll call vote was taken and resulted in **DO PASS AS AMENDED, 13-0, 1 ABSENT.**
Rep. Marie Strinden is the carrier. We will ask to put this on the consent calendar.

No committee report was done because this was brought back to committee on February 15, 2013 as there was no need for an emergency clause.

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2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HCR 3012
February 15, 2013
19020

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

Carmen Hart

Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Concurrent resolution urging the United States Air Force to select the Grand Forks Air Force Base as the active duty main operating base for the new KC-46A refueling tanker mission.

Minutes:

You may make reference to "attached testimony."

Chairman Jim Kasper opened the session on HCR 3012. We have to bring this back because we found from Legislative Council that we do not put emergency clauses on resolutions.

Rep. Jason Dockter moved to reconsider our action.

Rep. Gary Paur seconded.

A voice vote was taken and motion carried.

Rep. Karen Rohr moved for a Do Pass.

Rep. Gary Paur seconded the motion.

A roll call vote resulted in a **DO PASS, 12-0, 2 ABSENT**. **Rep. Marie Strinden** is the carrier of this bill. This goes on the consent calendar.

Date: 2-14-13
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3012

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☐ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment

☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Steiner Seconded By Rohr

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper			Rep. Bill Amerman		
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning			Rep. Gail Mooney		
Rep. Jason Dockter			Rep. Marie Strinden		
Rep. Karen Karls			Rep. Steven Zaiser		
Rep. Ben Koppelman					
Rep. Vernon Laning					
Rep. Scott Louser					
Rep. Gary Paur					
Rep. Karen Rohr					
Rep. Vicky Steiner					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

*voice taken
vote taken
to add
emergency
clause
motion
carried*

Date: 2-14-13
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3012

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☒ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment
☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Rohr Seconded By Karls

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper	X		Rep. Bill Amerman	X	
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning	X		Rep. Gail Mooney	X	
Rep. Jason Dockter	X		Rep. Marie Strinden	X	
Rep. Karen Karls	X		Rep. Steven Zaiser	X	
Rep. Ben Koppelman	X				
Rep. Vernon Laning	X				
Rep. Scott Louser					
Rep. Gary Paur	X				
Rep. Karen Rohr	X				
Rep. Vicky Steiner	X				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Strinden

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Put on
Consent
Calendar

Date: 2-15-13
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3012

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☐ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment

☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☒ Reconsider

Motion Made By

J. Dockter
~~Steiner~~

Seconded By

Paur

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper			Rep. Bill Amerman		
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning			Rep. Gail Mooney		
Rep. Jason Dockter			Rep. Marie Strinden		
Rep. Karen Karls			Rep. Steven Zaiser		
Rep. Ben Koppelman					
Rep. Vernon Laning					
Rep. Scott Louser					
Rep. Gary Paur					
Rep. Karen Rohr					
Rep. Vicky Steiner					

voice vote reconsider to previous action motion carried

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

Date: 2-15-13
Roll Call Vote #: 2

**2013 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3012**

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment
☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Rohr Seconded By Paur

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Rep. Bill Amerman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vice Chairman Randy Boehning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Rep. Gail Mooney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Rep. Jason Dockter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Rep. Marie Strinden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Rep. Karen Karls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Rep. Steven Zaiser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Rep. Ben Koppelman					
Rep. Vernon Laning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Rep. Scott Louser					
Rep. Gary Paur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Rep. Karen Rohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Rep. Vicky Steiner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

on Consent Calendar

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Strinden

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3012: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Kasper, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR**
(12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3012 was placed on the
Tenth order on the calendar.

2013 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR 3012

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Missouri River Room, State Capitol

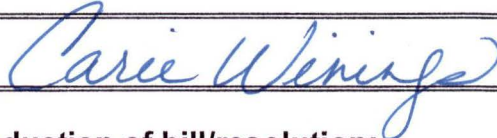
HCR 3012

03/14/2013

Job Number 19964

☐ Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A concurrent resolution urging the United States Air Force to select the Grand Forks Air Force Base as the active duty main operating base for the new KC-46A refueling tanker mission.

Minutes:

Chairman Dever: Opened the hearing on HCR 3012.

Representative Strinden, District 18: Testified as sponsor and in support of the bill.

Explained the bill.

(1:02)Chairman Dever: Do you know what a KC-46 A is?

Representative Strinden: Of course, it is a tanker. I wrote the resolution.

Chairman Dever: Do we have refuels in Grand Forks now?

Representative Strinden: We did.

(1:57) Maj. General Sprynczynatyk, Adjutant General: Testified in support of the resolution. It is a great opportunity for the Grand Forks Air Force base to have another viable mission to keep that base open into the future. Within the last couple of years the base did fly the KC-135 and that aircraft is about 50 years old and they are phasing them out of the system. The new aircraft, the KC-46, has the main body of Boeing 767. They will use that in the refueling mission to support other aircraft as they deploy around the world in defense of our nation. Right now we need another mission at that base to ensure that the base will continue to function and operate in NE North Dakota. We expect that this fall that

the Department of Defense and Congress will announce another round of BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) and they will look very closely at every base and make decisions on their future. If we have missions such as the KC-46, that certainly will sustain the future operation of that base. We currently fly the global hawk out of that base. It is an unmanned aerial vehicle - that is an active duty mission, and we, the National Guard, fly a smaller predator vehicle in and out of that base for training purposes. Customs and border protection agency flies in and out of that base as well to provide reconnaissance along the northern border. If we are successful in landing the KC-46 as a mission at Grand Forks it would go a long way to assure the sustainability of that base. It also gives an opportunity for our North Dakota Air National Guard - that wherever it is, there will be an association with a reserve component unit. The nearest one is the 119th wing of the Air National Guard out of Fargo. We are very excited as a National Guard to potentially be part of that mission. This past summer, the Governor and myself co-signed a letter to the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and the Secretary of our Air Force indicating the willingness and the great interest on behalf of the state of North Dakota in associating with that mission. There are 4 bases in contention right now for the first location and so on the surface our chances are 1 in 4 and then one to the south of us will be picked as a training base so that makes it 1 in 3. The Air Force was at Grand Forks two weeks ago and did a great job of inspecting the facility and every indication was that they were pleased with what they saw in terms of infrastructure and the facilities that could be used for the KC-46.

(6:07)Chairman Dever: Is the KC-46 currently in use?

General Sprynczynatyk: It has been off the assembly line a couple of years as a tanker. The designation of the first location will be made on May 1st and it will not be until 2016 that the first KC-46 will be available to locate at Grand Forks hopefully. It is not in use yet.

Chairman Dever: Does the sequester have any impact on this going forward?

General Sprynczynatyk: As of today no. I cannot guarantee that tomorrow. The fact is that we need a tanker to support our missions from the Air Force standpoint. The KC-135s are nearly 50 years old and there has been no indication that the sequestration will affect that.

Senator Nelson: Who builds them?

General Sprynczynatyk: It is a Boeing aircraft and they modify it for military purposes. Even though it is a tanker aircraft, they can take the bladders out that hold fuel and they can put the same seats in it as you have experienced in the C-130.

John Jacobson, North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council: See Attachment #1 for submitted written testimony in support of the resolution.

Chairman Dever: Closed the hearing on HCR 3012.

Senator Nelson: Moved a Do Pass.

Senator Schaible: Seconded.

A Roll Call Vote Was Taken: 7 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Senator Nelson: Carrier.

Date: 3/14
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2013 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE
ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3012

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken: ☒ Do Pass ☐ Do Not Pass ☐ Amended ☐ Adopt Amendment
☐ Rerefer to Appropriations ☐ Reconsider

Motion Made By Senator Nelson Seconded By Senator Schaible

Senators	Yes	No	Senator	Yes	No
Chairman Dick Dever	✓		Senator Carolyn Nelson	✓	
Vice Chairman Spencer Berry	✓		Senator Richard Marcellais	✓	
Senator Dwight Cook	✓				
Senator Donald Schaible	✓				
Senator Nicole Poolman	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Nelson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3012: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).
HCR 3012 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

Attachment 1
3012

Tanker assessment nears at Grand Forks base

FEBRUARY 07, 2013 11:27 PM • ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRAND FORKS, N.D. — A federal survey team is to visit Grand Forks Air Force Base later this month to assess its potential to host an air refueling tanker mission.

The base is one of four being considered for the new active-duty KC-46a tanker mission. The others are in Oklahoma, Washington state and Kansas. The Air Force plans an announcement in the spring after on-site surveys.

Local officials plan to tout the Grand Forks base's many assets, including its previous history with flying tankers and its new mission with unmanned aircraft.

NORTH DAKOTA VETERANS COORDINATING COUNCIL

My name is John Jacobsen. I am a member of the Legislative Committee of the North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council. I am also a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I served in the North Dakota National Guard and the US Army Reserve for a total of 30 years. I retired in 1995 as a Colonel. I served on active duty in 1991 during Operation Desert Shield/Desert storm in the Persian Gulf, stationed in the United Arab Emirates.

The Coordinating Council is made up of 15 members, 3 from each of the five veterans' organizations in North Dakota.

American Legion

AMVETS

Disabled American Veterans

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Vietnam Veterans of America

It is the policy of the Coordinating Council to support legislation that will benefit the welfare of the members of the Armed Forces. The committee MUST concur totally, that is all 15 members must agree on the legislation to be supported or else it does not get the support.

In this case, I have been instructed to recommend to this legislative committee that a "DO PASS" on HCR 3012 is supported by the Veterans Coordinating Council.

NORTH DAKOTA VETERANS COORDINATING COUNCIL

My name is John Jacobsen. I am a member of the Legislative Committee of the North Dakota Veterans Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council is made up of 15 members, 3 from each of the five veterans' organizations in North Dakota.

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In this case, I have been instructed to recommend to this legislative committee that a "DO PASS" on HCR 3012 is supported by the Veterans Coordinating Council.