

By: Corte

H.C.R. No. 229

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           WHEREAS, Over the past eight years, the State of Texas and the  
2 City of San Antonio have partnered in the redevelopment of Kelly Air  
3 Force Base at the Port of San Antonio to create a world-class  
4 aerospace center in support of U.S. Air Force soldiers; and

5           WHEREAS, Several top-level defense contractors have provided  
6 significant private investment in leased facilities at the Port of  
7 San Antonio to perform world-class Air Force aircraft maintenance,  
8 repair, and operations (MRO) while employing approximately 3,300  
9 people; and

10           WHEREAS, These MRO defense contractors have invested heavily  
11 in the development of the San Antonio workforce by providing  
12 training in state-of-the-art technical operations, productivity  
13 improvement, worker safety, and employee involvement to develop a  
14 highly skilled workforce that has demonstrated outstanding  
15 performance for their military clients; and

16           WHEREAS, Moreover, these defense contractors and their  
17 employees contribute to our nation's defense preparedness by  
18 providing critical aircraft systems maintenance, repair, overhaul,  
19 and support services to optimize air force fleet utilization; and

20           WHEREAS, The world-class performance of the defense industry  
21 and its highly trained workforce provides military customers with  
22 the best value in performance measured by lowest cost, highest  
23 quality, and on-time delivery; this is in the best interest of our  
24 soldiers serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other high-priority

1 regions of the world; and

2 WHEREAS, Maintaining military industry MRO at the Port of San  
3 Antonio, in association with government-owned military depots  
4 performing MRO throughout the United States, is critical to our  
5 national security interests, permitting the nation to preserve  
6 strategic capability by maintaining a high state of readiness  
7 during this time of high-threat conflict; and

8 WHEREAS, Section 2466, Title 10, United States Code,  
9 prohibits more than 50 percent of designated core depot work being  
10 performed by nonfederal government personnel; however, internal  
11 air force accounting for industry and depot MRO may not properly  
12 reflect work performed by depots in "public/private partnerships,"  
13 thereby overstating the reported percentage of work performed by  
14 nongovernment personnel; and

15 WHEREAS, As the air force considers moving work from the Port  
16 of San Antonio to air force depots, due consideration may not be  
17 given for reasonable business costs such as capital funding for  
18 construction and other costs, research and development,  
19 procurement, benefits and future pension costs, and other related  
20 costs, resulting in a decision based on inaccurate information; and

21 WHEREAS, The significant investments made by industry, the  
22 Port of San Antonio, and the State of Texas to support the national  
23 MRO defense industrial base and workforce should be considered  
24 before the air force invests in duplicate capabilities; and

25 WHEREAS, The MRO at the Port of San Antonio should maintain  
26 its highly skilled workforce so essential to the national interest;  
27 unfortunately, this requisite private industry support will be lost

1 forever if allowed to be degraded due to inadequate attention; and

2 WHEREAS, MRO operations and workforce competency and ability  
3 are driven by a spirit to compete for work that provides best value  
4 to our military customers; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
6 hereby congratulate MRO defense employees located at the Port of  
7 San Antonio for their commitment to supporting our soldiers and  
8 taxpayers; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the legislature hereby request that the  
10 United States Air Force consider the impact on our soldiers in Iraq,  
11 Afghanistan, and elsewhere, and the American taxpayers, as it  
12 determines its national public and private industrial base policy  
13 and considers relocating work from the Port of San Antonio to  
14 military depots; and, be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the legislature request that the air force  
16 consider workforce performance, capital and construction costs,  
17 benefits and future pension costs, and existing national industrial  
18 base, including the private sector, as it considers the work  
19 transfer; and, be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
21 copies of this resolution to the secretary of the United States Air  
22 Force.