

By: Van de Putte

S.C.R. No. 76

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Over the past eight years, the State of Texas and the  
3 City of San Antonio have partnered in the redevelopment of Kelly Air  
4 Force Base into the Port of San Antonio to create a world-class  
5 aerospace center in support of the United States Air Force; and

6 WHEREAS, Several top-level defense prime contractors have  
7 made significant private investments in leased facilities at the  
8 Port of San Antonio to provide world-class aircraft maintenance,  
9 repair, and overhaul services for the United States Air Force,  
10 employing approximately 3,300 people; and

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

17 WHEREAS, The defense contractors and employees located at the  
18 Port of San Antonio contribute to United States defense  
19 preparedness by providing critical aircraft systems maintenance,  
20 repair, overhaul, and support services to optimize United States  
21 Air Force fleet utilization; and

22 WHEREAS, The world-class performance of the defense industry  
23 and its highly trained workforce provides best-value results  
24 measured in terms of lowest cost, highest quality, and on-time

1 delivery to military customers and serves the best interest of the  
2 military forces serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other  
3 high-priority regions of the world; and

4 WHEREAS, Maintaining defense industry maintenance, repair,  
5 and overhaul operations at the Port of San Antonio, in association  
6 with government-owned military depots performing maintenance,  
7 repair, and overhaul operations throughout the United States, is  
8 critical to national security requirements to preserve national  
9 strategic capability by maintaining a high state of readiness  
10 during this time of high-threat conflict; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States Code, 10 U.S.C. Section 2466,  
12 requires that not more than 50 percent of designated core depot work  
13 be performed by private industry; however, the General Accounting  
14 Office has cited some inconsistencies with regard to the reporting  
15 of industry and depot maintenance, repair, and overhaul operations,  
16 which may not properly reflect work performed by depots through  
17 "public/private partnerships," so that inaccurate data is being  
18 reported to the United States Air Force with regard to the  
19 percentage of work being performed by private industry; and

20 WHEREAS, As the United States Air Force continues to consider  
21 moving work from the Port of San Antonio to out-of-state Air Force  
22 depots, due consideration should be given to maintaining our war  
23 fighting capability as well as to all reasonable business costs  
24 such as capital funding for construction and other costs, research  
25 and development, procurement, benefits and future pension  
26 expenses, and other costs; such factors may not be accurately  
27 reflected in the data that the Air Force uses in making decisions to

1 move maintenance, repair, and overhaul work; and

2 WHEREAS, The significant investments made by industry, the  
3 Port of San Antonio, and the State of Texas to support the national  
4 maintenance, repair, and overhaul defense industrial base and  
5 workforce should be considered before the United States Air Force  
6 invests in duplicate capabilities; and

7 WHEREAS, The maintenance, repair, and overhaul operations at  
8 the Port of San Antonio, which maintain a highly skilled workforce,  
9 are essential to the national interest; they require an adequate  
10 level of business in order to be in a position to support our armed  
11 forces, and this national asset will be lost to our nation forever  
12 if allowed to be degraded due to inadequate attention and  
13 utilization; and

14 WHEREAS, The maintenance, repair, and overhaul operations  
15 and workforce competency and ability are driven by a spirit to  
16 compete for work that provides best value to our military  
17 customers; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
19 hereby congratulate maintenance, repair, and overhaul defense  
20 industry employees located at the Port of San Antonio and the State  
21 of Texas on their commitment to support our armed forces and the  
22 taxpayers; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the United States Air Force should consider  
24 the impact on our armed forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere  
25 and on American taxpayers as it determines its national public and  
26 private industrial base policy with regard to relocating work from  
27 the Port of San Antonio to military depots; and, be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the United States Air Force should take into  
2 account all due business considerations such as workforce  
3 performance, capital and construction costs, benefits and future  
4 pension costs, and the existing national industrial base including  
5 the private sector as it considers work transfer; and, be it further

6           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
7 prepared for the Secretary of the United States Air Force as an  
8 expression of the high regard of the legislature for the defense  
9 contractors and their employees located at the Port of San Antonio.