

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1859

A RESOLUTION supporting the Airborne Laser program and urging the United States Congress to provide the necessary funding for the on-going development and operation of the program.

WHEREAS, The Airborne Laser program has the potential to be one of the cornerstones of the nation's layered missile defense architecture against ballistic missile threats; and

WHEREAS, Significant program development accomplishments during 2008 included firing a high-energy laser through the Airborne Laser's beam control/fire control system, completing the first ground test of the entire weapon system integrated aboard the aircraft; and

WHEREAS, The Airborne Laser will demonstrate its capabilities against a boosting missile in 2009 and also offers multi-mission potential and capability to fill capability gaps in surface-to-air missile defense, cruise missile defense and air-to-air defense; and

WHEREAS, Now is the time for the United States to stay the course in supporting the Airborne Laser program system as one of the future cornerstones of the nation's missile defense shield against ballistic missile threats; and

WHEREAS, The Boeing Wichita facility, and its Kansas employees, have played a vital role in the development and modification of the first Airborne Laser system on a 747-400, and if the program continues after this year's shoot-down demonstration, Kansas and the Wichita area will potentially receive many long-term benefits from the program: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we support the continued robust investment in development for the Airborne Laser program and that we respectfully urge the United States Congress to provide the necessary funding for the on-going development and operation of the Airborne Laser program; and

*Be it further resolved:* That we respectfully urge the United States Congress to direct the United States Department of Defense to continue the development and operation of the Airborne Laser system; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the United States Senate; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the United States Senate; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader of the United States Senate; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; the Honorable John Boehner, Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives; the Honorable Robert M. Gates, United States Secretary of Defense and Members of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

Senate Resolution No. 1859 was sponsored by Senators Petersen, Abrams, Apple, Barnett, Brownlee, Colyer, Donovan, Emler, Faust-Goudeau, Haley, Hensley, Holland, Huelskamp, Kelly, Kelsey, Kultala, Lee, Lynn, Marshall, Masterson, McGinn, Morris, Ostmeyer, Owens, D. Schmidt, V. Schmidt, Schodorf, Steineger, Taddiken, Teichman, Umbarger, Vratil, Wagle and Wysong.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

---

*President of the Senate.*

---

*Secretary of the Senate.*