

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HILL AIR
FORCE BASE**

2004 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: David L. Thomas

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor supports Hill Air Force Base.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ expresses support and gratitude for the contributions made by Hill Air Force Base and those who serve there to the nation's safety, the state's economy, and its nearby communities; and
- ▶ expresses support for the continued use, operation functions, and expansion of Hill Air Force Base in the future.

Special Clauses:

None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

WHEREAS, for over 60 years, Hill Air Force Base has played a vital role as a critical support to the defense of the nation;

WHEREAS, the Ogden Air Logistics Center and its vast and unique industrial capability provides life cycle and combat support for fighter aircraft, the U.S. silo-based intercontinental ballistic missile force, C-130 transport aircraft, landing gear, wheels, and brakes for all air force air craft, advanced cruise missiles, and munitions management and storage;

WHEREAS, its unique capabilities include one-of-a-kind Department of Defense capability in Computed Tomography, Strategic Missile Integration Facility, worldwide visibility

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of munitions storage, Advanced Composite manufacture and repair, a software technology support center, the Little Mountain Survivability and Vulnerability Integration Center, and the Oasis remote test and distribution site;

WHEREAS, the Utah Test and Training Range is the nation's largest Department of Defense controlled airspace with 17,000 square miles for test and training operations;

WHEREAS, the Utah Test and Training Range is the only test range for cruise missile flight testing, is invaluable to the development of this critical technology, and provides for overland training of aircrews from all over the Air Force that cannot be achieved at any other continental United States location;

WHEREAS, the 388th Fighter Wing of the Air Combat Command and the 419th Fighter Wing of the Air Force Reserve are both located at Hill Air Force Base and benefit from the Utah Test and Training Range;

WHEREAS, the men and women of these two organizations employ the latest technology in their F-16 Fighters when called to support United States interests anywhere in the world and are currently involved with providing combat capability in the Middle East;

WHEREAS, the 388th Fighter Wing forms the 1st Air Expeditionary Force and the 419th Fighter Wing provides air power for the 7th Air Expeditionary Force;

WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base and the 388th and 419th Fighter Wings were involved in the war with Iraq as they were with Operation Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom;

WHEREAS, during Operation Desert Storm, Hill Air Force Base deployed over 1,300 personnel and over three million pounds of equipment to provide combat capability for the United States, which included personnel for medical support, security, civil engineers, communications, combat logistics support, services, and explosive ordinance disposal, besides aircrew and aircraft;

WHEREAS, the depot surged components for all aircraft involved in the conflict, delivered six aircraft early from depot maintenance to be involved in the fight, and thousands of refurbished items;

WHEREAS, as the ammunition control point, Hill Air Force Base managed the movement of over 71 million pounds of munitions worldwide, creating what was called an "iron bridge" from

Hill Air Force Base to Saudi Arabia;

WHEREAS, the same "around-the-clock" operation will be required for a future conflict;

WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base supports the community as well as the national defense mission as hundreds are helped yearly through its Sub-for-Santa operations;

WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base employees donate time to tutor students and support scouting, youth sports programs, and community church projects;

WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base employees are also involved in local city government and other volunteer organizations and annually contribute almost a million dollars to charities;

WHEREAS, for fiscal year 2002, the Ogden Air Logistics Center was the only center to finish operations on budget with the best efficiency and lowest operating costs in the Air Force Material Command;

WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base provides jobs for over 22,000 people and has an impact of over \$2.1 billion on the area economy;

WHEREAS, Hill Air Force Base and the men and women that make it produce are an invaluable part of the nation's defense posture, good neighbors in their communities, and an essential part of the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, the state of Utah has spent over \$12 million to secure and protect the air space around Hill Air Force Base and another \$2 million for an emergency landing strip:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, express support and gratitude for the contributions that Hill Air Force Base, and those who serve there, have made and continue to make to the nation's defense, the state's economy, and the communities in which they live.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor express support for the continued use, operation functions, and expansion of Hill Air Force Base in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Hill Air Force Base, the Ogden Air Logistics Center, the Utah Test and Training Range, the 388th Fighter Wing, the Air Combat Command, the 419th Fighter Wing, and the Air Force Reserve.

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