

## SENATE AMENDMENTS TO A-ENGROSSED HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

By COMMITTEE ON RULES

June 14

1 On page 1 of the printed A-engrossed joint memorial, delete lines 6 through 25 and insert:

2 “Whereas the Pacific Northwest is a vital economic region of the United States and is the  
3 gateway to the Pacific Rim; and

4 “Whereas the Pacific Northwest’s rivers, dams and other power facilities are an integral part  
5 of the nation’s energy infrastructure; and

6 “Whereas the Pacific Northwest is the home of significant investments in plant and personnel  
7 for major international corporations such as Microsoft, Boeing and Intel; and

8 “Whereas the Pacific Northwest deserves the same level of protection from enemies, including  
9 terrorist groups and rogue nation states, that is enjoyed by any other region of the United States;  
10 and

11 “Whereas the Oregon National Guard has defended the airspace over the entire Pacific North-  
12 west with its 142nd Fighter Wing for more than half a century; and

13 “Whereas the physical protection of the entire United States of America is the central mission  
14 of the Department of Defense; and

15 “Whereas the purpose of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission is to ensure  
16 that our national military infrastructure is optimally arranged to support the defense of the entire  
17 nation; and

18 “Whereas the Department of Defense has made a grave error in recommending to the Defense  
19 Base Closure and Realignment Commission that the 142nd Fighter Wing’s F-15 jet fighter coverage  
20 for Pacific Northwest airspace be reduced from 15 aircraft on alert to just two; and

21 “Whereas the department has made this recommendation even while recommending that the  
22 number of aircraft on alert in other regions of the United States be increased; and

23 “Whereas such a significant reduction in the number of aircraft on alert to protect the airspace  
24 over the Pacific Northwest will directly and immediately increase the vulnerability of this region  
25 to attack from enemies of the United States; and

26 “Whereas the Department of Defense has also recommended relocating certain resources of the  
27 939th Air Refueling Wing to other regions of the country, even though the department has expended  
28 \$30 million in the past three years to upgrade the Portland Air Base for the 939th Air Refueling  
29 Wing, thereby creating a world-class air tanker base; and

30 “Whereas the 939th Air Refueling Wing plays a vital role in the support of the air defense  
31 mission of the Pacific Northwest; and

32 “Whereas our nation has relied on citizen soldiers since its founding; and

33 “Whereas citizens of Oregon and Washington have given years of their lives as citizen soldiers,  
34 serving this nation at a tremendous cost savings to the people of the United States; and

35 “Whereas the National Guard and Reserve have proved their vital importance to our nation’s

1 security; and

2 “Whereas Oregon ranks 48th among all states in expenditures by the Department of Defense;  
3 and

4 “Whereas the face of the Department of Defense in Oregon is the National Guard and Reserve;  
5 now, therefore,”

6 Delete lines 27 and 28 and insert:

7 “(1) The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission is respectfully urged to carefully  
8 examine the basis for the Department of Defense’s recommendation, to reject that recommendation  
9 as inconsistent with the department’s central mission to protect the entire United States, and to  
10 recommend to the President of the United States and to Congress that the 142nd Fighter Wing be  
11 maintained at its present level as a fully manned and equipped fighter wing to defend the Pacific  
12 Northwest.”

13 On page 2, delete line 1.

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