

May 2009

The Honorable (fill in name of your Congressperson here)

Dear Congressman,

On behalf of the Machinist working for The Boeing Company, GKN Aerospace, and RTI Tradco, I am writing to encourage the continued funding of the C-17 Globemaster and the F/A-18 Super Hornet in the 2010 defense budget. The proposed plan poses a significant threat to the future funding of these critical programs, not only to our industrial base, but to our nations troops as well.

The proposed defense budget would eliminate or significantly reduce the programs mentioned above. The new budget would include the cancellation of the C-17 program entirely, and would reduce the purchase of the F/A-18 Super Hornet to a minimal number.

A significant portion of the C-17 and F/A-18 production is done in the St. Louis region. In addition, Boeing's Military Research and Development Division is headquartered in St. Louis.

The C-17 has proven to be the most effective and efficient transport aircraft in our nation's history. Whether delivering troops or supplies to zones of military operations or delivering life sustaining humanitarian supplies to areas of the world devastated by natural disasters, these planes meet our nation's needs.

The F/A-18 is a proven combat effective tactical aircraft that has exceeded our Navy's expectations and with the estimated shortfall of 200 tactical aircraft, our military can not wait for new aircraft that has not even entered into production yet.

I implore you to stand up for my family and protect the jobs associated with these programs and the troops relying on these national assets. Your support is imperative to the jobs of many Missouri and Illinois constituents like myself and our family members who are currently serving in our military.

I am counting on you to take action and preserve the finest aircraft in the aerospace industry.

\_\_\_\_\_(signature here)

\_\_\_\_\_(Print name here)

\_\_\_\_\_(Address here)