

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 115

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

CONGRESS: Memorializes congress to prevent the retirement of certain aircraft assigned to Barksdale Air Force Base

1                                   A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2    To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to prevent  
3       the retirement of A-10 aircraft assigned to the 917th Fighter Group, based at  
4       Barksdale Air Force Base.

5       WHEREAS, established in 1932, the Barksdale Air Force Base (AFB), a United  
6    States Air Force Base located approximately 4.72 miles east-southeast of Bossier City,  
7    Louisiana is named for World War I aviator and test pilot 2nd Lieutenant Eugene Hoy  
8    Barksdale (1896–1926); and

9       WHEREAS, Barksdale Air Force Base has proudly served Arkansas, Louisiana, and  
10   Texas for more than sixty-seven years and is home to the 2d Bomb Wing, 2d Mission  
11   Support Group, 2d Operations Group, 2d Maintenance Group, the 2d Medical Group, 8th Air  
12   Force Museum, and the Air Force Reserve's 917th Wing; and

13       WHEREAS, in December 1999, the 917th Wing received the Air Force outstanding  
14   Unit Award, for winning the Chief of Staff Team Excellence Award and Secretary of  
15   Defense Award for Self-Inspection Tracking System. The award noted the unit's  
16   sponsorship of the Starbase program, which creates interest for local children in math,  
17   science, and technology by using an aviation theme; and

18       WHEREAS, Barksdale Air Force Base has grown into a major source of revenue and  
19   employment for the region by providing jobs for nearly ten thousand military and civilian  
20   employees and in 2006, under Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), the 917th Wing

1 gained eight A-10 aircraft and a number of full-time and part-time employment positions;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, as part of a wide-ranging plan to reduce its total aircraft inventory, the  
4 Obama administration intends to propose in the 2013 budget request, the elimination of  
5 twenty-four A-10 aircraft that comprise the Air Force Reserve's 917th Fighter Group at  
6 Barksdale Air Force Base; and

7 WHEREAS, the Air Force plans to rebalance its overall ratio of regular, reserve, and  
8 Air National Guard forces at about sixty installations in thirty-three states and retire two  
9 hundred twenty-seven aircraft to support a new defense strategy known as the "Air Force  
10 Strategy and Structure Overview"; and

11 WHEREAS, for nearly eighty years the 917th Wing at Barksdale Air Force Base and  
12 the Shreveport-Bossier community have enjoyed a strong partnership, which provides jobs  
13 to the community and programs for the local children, and the elimination of the A-10  
14 aircraft will have an adverse effect on not only the economy but the community as well.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
16 memorialize congress to take such actions as are necessary to oppose the elimination of A-10  
17 aircraft assigned to the 917th Fighter Group, based at Barksdale Air Force Base.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
19 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the  
20 United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Thompson

HCR No. 115

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