

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Joint House Resolution

J.R.H. 12

Joint resolution supporting the Vermont citizens who filed the federal law suit related to the basing of F-35A military jets at the Burlington International Airport and the majority of the voters of the city of Winooski who voted on March 3, 2015 for the city to join the lawsuit

Offered by: Representatives Bissonnette of Winooski and Gonzalez of Winooski

Whereas, the U.S. Air Force's decision to base F-35A military jets at Burlington International Airport (BTV), as a successor to the currently-based F-16 military jets, raises serious environmental and health issues, and

Whereas, half of Winooski, including all of the downtown area would be located in either the 65 decibel day-night average sound level contour zone, which is described as "generally not considered suitable for residential use," or the crash zone area at the end of runways, and

Whereas, in September 2013, the U.S. Air Force distributed the final version of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) it drafted in preparation for a decision on where to base F-35A military jets, and

Whereas, in December 2013, the U.S. Air Force announced that BTV was selected as an F-35A basing site, and

Whereas, on June 30, 2014, seven residents of either South Burlington or Winooski and the Stop the F-35 Coalition filed a federal lawsuit (Civil Action No. 514-cv-132) against U.S. Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James, seeking to set aside the BTV basing decision and requiring the preparation of a new and more thorough EIS that meets all of the NEPA requirements, and

Whereas, on March 3, 2015, the Winooski electorate, on a 627–408 majority vote, approved an advisory article on the city meeting's ballot supporting the city's joining the lawsuit, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly supports the Vermont citizens who filed the federal law suit concerning the basing of F-35A military jets at the Burlington International Airport and the majority of the voters of the city of Winooski who voted on March 3, 2015, for the city to join the lawsuit, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Winooski City Clerk.