



**Written Proponent Testimony provided by
David Cordonnier, Manager of Engagement, Dayton Development Coalition
on House Resolution 243
Ohio House Veterans & Military Development Committee
November 5, 2025**

Chair Richardson, Vice-Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Lawson-Rowe, and members of the House Veterans & Military Development Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present written proponent testimony on House Resolution 243, supporting Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base as the preferred main operating base for the KC-46 Pegasus aircraft.

The Dayton Development Coalition is a regional economic development organization whose mission is to support job creation and opportunity for the citizens of the Dayton Region. In addition, the Dayton Development Coalition works closely with aerospace and defense partners to promote Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the Springfield Air National Guard Base.

While Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base is outside of our region, the selection by the Secretary of the Air Force as the preferred main operating base for the KC-46 Pegasus refueling aircraft would benefit the U.S. Air Force and the State of Ohio. Currently, the 121st Air Refueling Wing uses the KC-135 aircraft to fulfill their mission. The KC-135 has been in service for over 68 years since its delivery to the Air Force in June 1957. In addition to supporting the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard, the 121st also provides aerial refueling to the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, and allied nations.

The State of Ohio is home to many critical military assets with major federal installations, a robust aerospace and defense industry, and missions important to national security. The decision to base KC-46 Pegasus aircraft at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base would further solidify the state's position as a strategic defense partner and enhance our national defense readiness.

We urge your support for House Resolution 243.