As Adopted by the House

136th General Assembly Regular Session 2025-2026

H. R. No. 243

Representatives Richardson, Ghanbari

Cosponsors: Representatives Mathews, T., Lawson-Rowe, Dovilla, Holmes, Abrams, Barhorst, Brennan, Brent, Brewer, Callender, Click, Daniels, Deeter, Fischer, Fowler Arthur, Gross, Hall, D., Hiner, Hoops, John, Johnson, King, Kishman, Klopfenstein, LaRe, Lorenz, Mathews, A., Peterson, Piccolantonio, Ray, Robb Blasdel, Roemer, Santucci, Stephens, Stewart, Swearingen, Synenberg, Thomas, C., Thomas, J., White, A., White, E., Williams, Willis, Young

A RESOLUTION

То	request the Secretary of the Air Force select the	1
	121st Air Refueling Wing at the Rickenbacker Air	2
	National Guard Base in Columbus, Ohio, as the	3
	preferred main operating base for the KC-46 Pegasus	4
	refueling aircraft.	5

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, The Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base has a	6
host of assets that will provide the Air Force and its guard	7
component with unmatched benefits for basing the KC-46; and	8
WHEREAS, Rickenbacker, unmatched in capabilities, features	9
two 12,000-foot runways rated for unrestricted heavy aircraft	10
use. The Columbus Regional Airport Authority, the civilian local	11
airport agency that hosts the 121st ARW, has invested more than	12
\$62.9 million in airport infrastructure since 2017, including	13
runway upgrades; and	14

Page 2 H. R. No. 243 As Adopted by the House WHEREAS, Rickenbacker contains ramps and taxiways that are 15 KC-46 capable at an airfield with unmatched air-road-rail 16 intermodal capabilities positioning Rickenbacker to be a 17 strategic aerial port of embarkation; and 18 WHEREAS, Rickenbacker is located within four hours of 60% 19 of all Department of Defense customers and six to eight hours of 20 nearly 80% of potential customers; and 21 WHEREAS, Rickenbacker features a new squadron flying 22 operations facility as well as a modern weapons system simulator 23 facility capable of housing KC-46 simulators; and 24 WHEREAS, Rickenbacker has a location adjacent to new 25 facilities for passenger and cargo movement that could 26 accommodate planned or future needs of the Department of 2.7 Defense; and 28 WHEREAS, Rickenbacker sits in a geographic location that 29 enjoys a very low risk for natural disasters and weather issues 30 in comparison to all of the other candidate sites; and 31 WHEREAS, Rickenbacker is the home of the 121st Air 32 Refueling Wing; and 33 WHEREAS, The men and women of the 121st Air Refueling Wing 34 have demonstrated that they are top-notch experienced 35 performers, recognized in 2024 as the Air National Guard's top 36 KC-135 wing with over 3,290 flight hours offloading over 17 37 million pounds of fuel to over 3,600 contacts, and is the only 38 39 one of two assessed wings that is aligned with KC-46 manpower requirements; and 40 WHEREAS, The 121st Air Refueling Wing flew 126% of 41 programmed flying hours in 2023, exceeding its commitment, and 42 allowing the Air National Guard to achieve its flying hours 4.3 target, and has overall wing manning at 109% placing the 121st 44 at number four among 90 Air National Guard wings and number two 45

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among 16 KC-135 wings. Aircrew manning is 114%, and maintenance	46
manning is 126%; and	47
WHEREAS, The 121st Air Refueling Wing executed eight major	48
overseas deployments while supporting 24 major exercises	49
worldwide over the past five years; and	50
WHEREAS, The 121st Air Refueling Wing is leading other	51
locations in standing up a Sensitive Compartmented Information	52
Facility (SCIF) (operational in 2026) to increase its ability to	53
fulfill more missions and roles; and	54
WHEREAS, The 121st Air Refueling Wing is a critical support	55
element for the Nuclear Triad; now therefore be it	56
RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of	57
Representatives of the 136th General Assembly of the State of	58
Ohio, request the Secretary of the Air Force select the 121st	59
Air Refueling Wing at the Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base	60
in Columbus, Ohio, as the preferred main operating base for the	61
KC-46 Pegasus refueling aircraft; and be it further	62
RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives	63
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the	64
President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate,	65
Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives,	66
the members of Ohio's Congressional delegation, Dr. Troy E.	67
Meink, Secretary of the Air Force, and the news media of Ohio.	68