



**WASHINGTON
AEROSPACE
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Support for US Tanker 2010

*“Washington's workforce stands at the ready to begin immediate production on an American tanker. Our dedicated aerospace workers have inherited a legacy of knowledge and their integrity and skill cannot be matched anywhere in the world. The original refueling tankers were built right here in the Puget Sound region and we know that the next generation of tankers, if built here in Washington, will continue to provide the best plane available for our national security and defense.” – **Rick Bender, President, Washington State Labor Council***

*“Our state's communities host substantial human resources, airmen who have served the nation flying and maintaining America's tankers. Boeing's selection as the KC-X prime contractor can immediately tap that invaluable human resource.” – **Gary Brackett, Manager, Business and Trade Development Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber***

*“The tanker contract is a key component of putting people back to work in the private sector — not just in Washington state but nationwide. A contract of \$35 billion is a huge job and economic stimulus, particularly for the small businesses that have built their livelihoods on the aerospace industry. Together, Boeing and its vast network of suppliers have demonstrated time and again their ability to deliver outstanding products for our nation's military. Boeing's technology, based on years of success with the existing KC135s and the fact that it recently built KC767 tankers for Japan and Italy, is a compelling reason to select the aerospace company.” – **Don C. Brunell, President, Association of Washington Business***

*“The need is urgent. America's war fighters must have a new air refueling tanker now. The choice is clear. The Boeing tanker is ready to fly. Let us invest in American jobs and American industry. Our aerospace workers, the most skilled in the world must be allowed to build this tanker. We cannot wait for five years for an untested, unproven product built by Europeans, sending our dollars and jobs overseas. Let's get started with the American tanker now, and let's make sure final assembly is in Puget Sound, in addition to the tens of thousands of other jobs created throughout America.” – **R. Thomas Buffenbarger, International President, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers***

*“The tens of thousands of jobs Boeing's proposal would create benefit not only American workers but hundreds of small businesses across our country, many of which face a long, slow climb out of the recession. Award the contract to Boeing—it's the right thing to do.” – **Phil Bussey, President & CEO, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce***

*“The Air Force Tanker project will create thousands of jobs. Awarding the program to Boeing means that all of those jobs are US jobs. With the US taxpayer footing the bill for the Tanker and national unemployment running close to 10%, the only real choice to build the Air Force Tanker is Boeing.” – **Tom Flavin, President and CEO, enterpriseSeattle***

*“We support the tanker refueling contract and Boeing’s bid which would bring jobs and economic opportunity to the state of Washington,” said **Rich Hadley, President & CEO of Greater Spokane Incorporated**. “The contract would have a direct economic impact on the Spokane region and the State of Washington.”*

*“In Snohomish County, we fully appreciate the importance of Boeing jobs to the U.S. economy,” said **Jean Hales, South Snohomish County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO**. “We also recognize the importance of working together with the rest of the country on issues of national security and consider it imperative that the new refueling tanker be U.S. designed and built.”*

*“We are very proud to have the 767 assembly in Everett and wholeheartedly welcome the US Air Force Tanker Refueling contract. The jobs and innovation surrounding this project will be an asset to the significant Boeing presence already in Washington State.” – **Deborah Knutson, President, Economic Development Council of Snohomish County***

*“Boeing and its suppliers have a history of making the world’s best military and commercial airplanes. This tradition will continue if the Defense Department makes the right decision and selects the Boeing’s tanker proposal. Plus we will see the creation of thousands of American jobs.” – **Linda Lanham, Executive Director, Aerospace Futures Alliance of Washington***

*“Securing the Air Force Tanker Refueling contract is important to all communities in Washington State. In Yakima we have aerospace supply companies who will benefit from this project and in turn employ a well paid workforce to produce key parts and assemblies.” – **David McFadden, President/CEO, New Vision, the Yakima County Development Assn.***

*“Both Washington State and the entire country have much to gain if Boeing is awarded the 767 tanker contract,” said **Betty Nokes, President & CEO of the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce**. “We have the existing workforce and infrastructure that will deliver a superior aircraft and put more Americans to work now.”*

*“Securing the Air Force Tanker Refueling contract is of vital importance to SW Washington and the Portland metropolitan business community. With Boeing operations in Gresham and its workforce in Vancouver, a win for Boeing is a win for us all.” – **Bart Phillips, President, Columbia River Economic Development Council***

*“Our aerospace sector needs your support today – helping the Boeing Company succeed in attaining the Air Force Tanker contract means the creation of jobs locally and across our nation. Boeing has shown that they are willing to be innovative, entrepreneurial and able to adapt to the changing environment, enhancing our workforce as well as creating new jobs.” – **Tom Pierson, CEO, Federal Way Chamber of Commerce***

*“Renton is proud of its rich history as a home of The Boeing Company for nearly 70 years. Renton’s aerospace suppliers and businesses large and small across Washington State have a big stake in the outcome of the Tanker decision. Boeing’s strong track record, superb product and well-trained workforce position our state well. The Renton Chamber of Commerce is grateful for the work of the Washington Aerospace Partnership and urges businesses across the state to support this important effort.” – **Bill Taylor, President & CEO, Renton Chamber of Commerce***