



HR0073

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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The federal government, now more than ever, needs
3 to eliminate wasteful spending programs from its budget; and

4 WHEREAS, The federal deficit recently hit \$13.5 trillion;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense will spend \$708 billion
7 on defense spending in the 2011 fiscal year for both base
8 defense programs and overseas contingency operations to
9 promote the safety and welfare of our nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Congress has planned to appropriate \$465 million
11 for an alternate GE F136 engine for the F-35 Joint Strike
12 Fighter program in the Defense Appropriations Bill; and

13 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense has already contracted
14 the Pratt & Whitney F135 engine, which has gone through
15 multiple series of testing and development; and

16 WHEREAS, No military aircraft in the past three decades has
17 been procured with multiple engine suppliers; and

18 WHEREAS, Developing the alternate engine would cost \$2.9
19 billion dollars over the next two to three years; and

1 WHEREAS, Having multiple engine suppliers will require
2 additional spending for two sets of parts, two production and
3 maintenance lines, and additional personnel and training,
4 which will lead to the production of fewer Joint Strike Fighter
5 planes; and

6 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama, with urging from military
7 officials and Defense Secretary Robert Gates, vows to veto the
8 Defense Authorization Bill if the alternate engine
9 appropriation is included in the bill; and

10 WHEREAS, Defense spending can be used more efficiently for
11 more vital military programs; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we encourage the members of the Illinois congressional
15 delegation to vote against the F-35 alternate engine
16 appropriations measure; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
18 presented to President Barack Obama, the Speaker of the United
19 States House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of
20 the United States Senate, and the members of the Illinois
21 congressional delegation.