

## 116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

## H. R. 4513

To authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to designate the Illinois Air National Guard 126th Air Refueling Wing at Scott Air Force Base as a Center of Excellence for KC-135R maintenance operations.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 26, 2019

Mr. Bost (for himself, Mrs. Bustos, Mr. Danny K. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Rodney Davis of Illinois, Mr. Shimkus, Mr. Kinzinger, Ms. Kelly of Illinois, and Mr. Lahood) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to designate the Illinois Air National Guard 126th Air Refueling Wing at Scott Air Force Base as a Center of Excellence for KC-135R maintenance operations.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Air National Guard
- 5 Air Refueling Wing Center of Excellence Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds the following:

- 1 (1) The 126th Air Refueling Wing has a long, 2 decorated history of exceeding its fiscal year goals in 3 Mission Capable Rate, Aircraft Availability, Hourly 4 Use, Home Station Logistics Departure Reliability, 5 flying hours, sorties, and fuel offloaded.
  - (2) The 126th Air Refueling Wing was the top performing KC-135R unit in 2016, receiving the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.
  - (3) The 126th Air Refueling Wing had the highest mission capable rating for all KC-135R aircraft, Active, Guard and Reserve for fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018, and is on track for fiscal year 2019, with a 89.06 percent mission capable rating.
  - (4) The 126th Air Refueling Wing set the bar for home station departure reliability rate, exceeding Air Mobility Command's goal of 78 percent with a three-year average of 98.16 percent.
  - (5) The 126th Maintenance Group won the coveted Maintenance Effectiveness Award for being the top Maintenance Group in best Small Aircraft Maintenance unit category (<300 personnel) in the Air National Guard for fiscal year 2017.
- 24 (6) The 126th Maintenance Group was the vi-25 sionary of "Project 14", which is the premier 14-day

- 1 KC-135 periodic inspection model championed by 2 the National Guard Bureau.
- The 126th Maintenance Group completed periodic inspections of aircraft and nine periodic inspections on other units' KC-135s, increasing the mission capable rating by 8 percent and potentially setting the standard for periodic inspection regionalization.
  - (8) The 126th Air Refueling Wing flew 27 black letter flights (aircraft with zero discrepancies), including one flight in CENTCOM to support the warfighter.
  - (9) Air Mobility Command awarded the 126th Air Refueling Wing was the top tanker wing in fuel efficiency for fiscal year 2016 and 2017.
  - (10) The 126th Maintenance Group spearheaded the modeling of conditioned based maintenance plus, the benchmark for all KC-135 units.
  - (11) The 126th Air Refueling Wing supported the Illinois State Partnership Program, strengthening ties with the Polish Air Force during Joint Exercises BALTOPS/Clear Sky in 2018, flying 23 sorties while offloading 875,000 pounds of fuel to 102 receivers.

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1	(12) The 126th Air Refueling Wing supported
2	Joint Forces Domestic Operations in support of
3	Hurricane Irma relief efforts in 2017.
4	(13) The 126th Mission Support Group's Logis-
5	tics Readiness Squadron was awarded the Air Na-
6	tional Guard's Base Logistics Activity of the Year in
7	2017.
8	(14) The 126th Maintenance Group mantra of
9	"Fix It Today Safely", combined with the overall
10	126th Air Refueling Wing efforts, enabled aircraft to
11	safely fly over 3,500 sorties and over 16,000 hours
12	to refuel more than 2,700 U.S. Air Force and Allied
13	aircraft in fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018.
14	(15) Several members of the 126th Air Refuel-
15	ing Wing have received honors for their superior
16	work, including:
17	(A) #1 Paralegal in a Reserve Component
18	for 2018 as awarded by Air Mobility Command
19	and recognized by Judge Advocate General
20	Corps;
21	(B) #1 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Re-
22	connaissance Senior Noncommissioned Officer
23	in Air Mobility Command for 2017;
24	(C) #1 Noncommissioned Officer in the
25	State of Illinois for 2018;

1	(D) #1 1st Sergeant in the State of Illi-
2	nois for 2018; and
3	(E) #1 Airman in the State of Illinois for
4	2017.
5	SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE A CENTER OF EXCEL-
6	LENCE FOR KC-135R MAINTENANCE.
<ul><li>6</li><li>7</li></ul>	LENCE FOR KC-135R MAINTENANCE.  The Secretary of the Air Force may designate the
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