



HR1062

LRB095 20295 BDD 47299 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is a core mission of the National Guard to  
3 provide the states with units that are trained and equipped to  
4 protect life and property; and

5 WHEREAS, The Fire Department of the 183rd Fighter Wing of  
6 the Illinois Air National Guard is such a unit; and

7 WHEREAS, The Department, which is based out of the Abraham  
8 Lincoln Capital Airport in Springfield, Illinois, provides  
9 invaluable people, equipment, and resources for meeting the  
10 State's needs in responding to emergencies and natural  
11 disasters; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2005, the U.S. Defense Base Closure and  
13 Realignment Commission announced that the 183rd Fighter Wing  
14 would lose it's F-16 aircraft; and

15 WHEREAS, The National Guard Bureau announced that, without  
16 a flying mission, the firefighter positions for the 183rd would  
17 be eliminated as of April 1, 2008; and

18 WHEREAS, The removal of the Fire Department at the 183rd  
19 would have a substantial negative impact on the safety of the  
20 flying public, on the emergency-response capabilities of

1 Springfield and the surrounding communities, and on those  
2 communities' ability to respond to natural disasters and to  
3 homeland security; therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
5 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
6 urge the United States Congress and the National Guard Bureau  
7 to take all necessary steps to ensure that the Fire Department  
8 of the 183rd remains located at the Abraham Lincoln Capital  
9 Airport in Springfield, Illinois for the protection and  
10 preservation of the lives and property of citizens of Central  
11 Illinois; and be it further

12       RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be delivered to  
13 Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Chief, National Guard  
14 Bureau, the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the  
15 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member  
16 of the Illinois congressional delegation.