



HJ0073

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, From the 19th century to the present, the Rock
3 Island Arsenal has been a part of the economic and government
4 service history of the Quad Cities; and

5 WHEREAS, From an employment peak of 18,467 during the
6 height of World War II, the arsenal's workforce has shrunk to
7 less than half that number; and

8 WHEREAS, The arsenal remains a major economic engine in the
9 region, with more than 8,500 employees and more than 70 federal
10 and commercial tenants; the arsenal also adds some \$1 billion
11 to the local economy and impacts 14,000 community jobs; and

12 WHEREAS, The Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center at
13 the arsenal is one of the world's largest weapons manufacturing
14 facilities; the arsenal and its employees have repeatedly
15 proven that, for small-quantity orders and specialty jobs, it
16 has the expertise, equipment, and dedication to the defense of
17 the United States that cannot be equaled in private industry;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, A reduction at the Rock Island Arsenal would not
20 only threaten the local economy, but would also jeopardize the
21 readiness of United States forces to quickly respond in the war

1 on terror or in any future conflict; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
4 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the President of the
5 United States, the United States Congress, and the Secretary of
6 the Department of Defense to protect the Rock Island Arsenal
7 from any future reductions or other budget cuts; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution be
10 delivered to the President of the United States, the Secretary
11 of the United States Department of Defense, and the members of
12 the Illinois congressional delegation.