

February 29, 2008

**CONGRESSMAN AKIN'S STATEMENT ON AIR FORCE TANKER CONTRACT
ANNOUNCEMENT**

Washington, DC – "Today's announcement by the United States Air Force that Northrop Grumman Corp. and European Aeronautic Defence & Space Co. has won over Boeing's 767 for the contract to provide refueling tankers is both surprising and disappointing.

"Given the requirements of the Air Force and the 767's capabilities and the fact that Boeing is solely American owned makes it the best choice.

"It is disappointing and disconcerting that we are in a substantial way outsourcing on such an important military project."