



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**March 29, 2010**

**Motion 13194**

**Proposed No. 2010-0185.1**

**Sponsors Hague, Phillips, Dunn, Patterson,  
von Reichbauer and Ferguson**

1           A MOTION urging the United States Department of  
2           Defense to select the Boeing Company to build the next  
3           midair refueling tanker.

4           WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense has begun the process to  
5           procure the Air Force's next midair refueling tanker, and

6           WHEREAS, Boeing and Airbus are anticipated to be the competitors to build that  
7           tanker, and

8           WHEREAS, that contract could be worth \$35 billion, and

9           WHEREAS, the United States economy is currently struggling through a  
10          recession of historic magnitude, and

11          WHEREAS, unemployment nationally and in Washington remains around ten  
12          percent, and

13          WHEREAS, United States taxpayers deserve the best tanker at the least cost, and

14          WHEREAS, the Boeing Company has a history of producing successful tankers  
15          for the United States Air Force and other countries' air forces, and

16          WHEREAS, Boeing can deliver a better aircraft more quickly to our soldiers,  
17          sailors, airmen and airwomen, and

18 WHEREAS, Boeing will build its tankers in Everett, Washington, at a proven  
19 plant, with a highly skilled and dedicated regional workforce that has a tradition of  
20 building the best airplanes in the world, and

21 WHEREAS, the Seattle metropolitan statistical area has the highest concentration  
22 of aerospace jobs in the world, and

23 WHEREAS, Seattle and the Puget Sound region is home to the vast majority of  
24 Boeing's more than 75,000 workers, and

25 WHEREAS, each job at Boeing supports nearly three additional jobs, and

26 WHEREAS, aerospace workers earn an average of more than \$50,000 a year,  
27 which is sixty per cent higher than the average for all private sector industries, and

28 WHEREAS, most aerospace companies are relatively small businesses, many  
29 with five to fifty employees, and

30 WHEREAS, approximately \$5.4 billion is paid in annual wages to aerospace  
31 workers, which is five percent of all wages paid in the state, and

32 WHEREAS, the metropolitan King County council values these jobs and the  
33 people who hold them, and will make it a priority to ensure Washington and the Puget  
34 Sound region remains the best place to design, build and market commercial airplanes,  
35 and

36 WHEREAS, our national security interests are not served by sending this valuable  
37 and strategic program overseas, and

38 WHEREAS, Airbus has a majority of its workers in Europe, and by its own  
39 admission would only do the finishing work for a tanker in the United States, which is as  
40 little as five percent, and

41           WHEREAS, awarding the contract to Boeing can create or retain 40,000 to  
42 50,000 American jobs at a time in history when we desperately need them, and

43           WHEREAS, United States taxpayers are not served by buying tankers from both  
44 Boeing and Airbus in this competition;

45           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

46           A. The United States Department of Defense should select Boeing over Airbus to  
47 build the next midair refueling tanker.

48           B. The United States Department of Defense should not split the contract  
49 between the two competitors.

50           C. Copies of this motion should be immediately transmitted by the clerk of the  
51 council to the Boeing corporate offices in Chicago, Boeing Commercial Airplanes in

52 Seattle, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and the  
53 Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace.  
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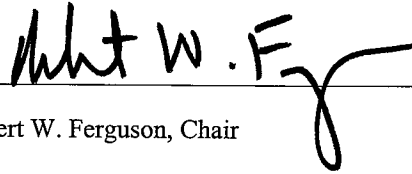
Motion 13194 was introduced on 3/15/2010 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 3/29/2010, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Dunn

No: 0

Excused: 2 - Ms. Drago and Ms. Hague

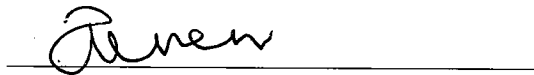
KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



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Robert W. Ferguson, Chair

ATTEST:



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Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None