

**Bob Dole**



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

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## **WICHITA'S BOEING KC-135R TANKER LINE** **RECEIVES BOOST**

Washington - Legislation boosting the KC-135R Tanker reengining program received final Congressional approval today, Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced. During passage of the 1993 Defense Authorization bill, the Senate agreed to authorize funding to reengine four older KC-135Q's, 10 KC-135E's, and 3 RC-135's with new engines and other modifications. The 10 KC-135E's specified in the bill, at Senator Dole's request, are key to future survival of the program. This provision begins the modernization of the large National Guard fleet of tankers. This could extend the KC-135R line at Boeing in Wichita for several years.

"I'm pleased that Congress agrees with me that the KC-135R line should remain open," said Dole. "Expanding the KC-135R reengining program to the Guard makes sense for the country and for the taxpayer."

Dole noted that because the "R" model meets critical stage iii noise limits, it is ideal for operation at civilian airports where many National Guard tanker squadrons are based. In addition, the "R" model is more fuel efficient and actually pays for itself in fuel savings.

The authorization bill now goes to President Bush for his signature.

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