

**Bob Dole**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**NEWS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**



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U.S. SENATE PASSES DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL;  
INCLUDES IMPORTANT PROJECTS FOR WICHITA AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURERS

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that the U.S. Senate approved the Defense Authorization Bill for the coming fiscal year. Included in the funding measure are several programs important to Wichita aircraft manufacturers. The bill now goes to a joint House/Senate conference committee before final passage by both Houses.

The following are Kansas programs included in the bill:

TANKER TRANSPORT TRAINING SYSTEM

The Senate authorized \$147.4 million for the T-1A Jayhawk trainer aircraft, which is built by Beech Aircraft.

"The T-1A Jayhawk provides top value to the taxpayer and state-of-the-art training to our future pilots. I'm pleased that the Senate has agreed to fund this outstanding training program. As we continue to downsize our nation's defense forces, it's essential that our men and women have the best training and equipment available," said Dole.

GUARDRAIL

The Senate authorized \$116.4 million for Guardrail, an intelligence-gathering aircraft system, manufactured by Beech aircraft.

"I have been working closely with the Department of Defense to develop a follow-on program using the Kansas-built C-12 airframe to provide real-time intelligence to our commanders in the field," said Dole.

JOINT PRIMARY AIRCRAFT TRAINING SYSTEM (JPATS)

The Senate agreed with Senator Dole to strongly support the Joint Primary Aircraft Training System (JPATS). JPATS is a joint service project that will be designed to accomplish primary pilot training for all branches of the Armed Services.

"JPATS is an important part of the continued modernization of our Armed Forces. Two of our own Kansas companies, Beech and Cessna are competing for the JPATS contract. This \$5 billion program could mean a big boost to the Kansas job market," said Dole.

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