



1995 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 46

May 23, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives R. POTTER and GROBSCHMIDT, cosponsored by Senators PLEWA and BURKE. Referred to calendar.

1 **Relating to:** the closure of the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station.

2 Whereas, the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station is the site of the
3 headquarters for the 440th Airlift Wing; and

4 Whereas, the mission of the 440th Airlift Wing is to maintain operation
5 readiness for the airlift of tactical units, airborne units, personnel, supplies and
6 equipment into prepared or unprepared areas by landing or airdrop; and

7 Whereas, the peacetime and wartime mission of the 440th Airlift Wing is global
8 in scope; and

9 Whereas, the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station in Milwaukee has been
10 included on the Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission's list of
11 installations for consideration; and

12 Whereas, the commission will conduct an in-depth evaluation of the 440th
13 Airlift Wing operation at the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station, focusing on the
14 base's current military value and its suitability for meeting the challenges of future
15 total force requirements; and

16 Whereas, the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station is the only federal air force
17 installation in the entire state of Wisconsin; and

1 Whereas, outstanding facilities at Wisconsin's Fort McCoy and Volk Field offer
2 the 440th Airlift Wing cost-efficient and nearby training opportunities for
3 accomplishing its primary mission; and

4 Whereas, the joint training opportunities and overall environment throughout
5 the state for the 440th Airlift Wing to hone its mission skills is unparalleled; and

6 Whereas, operating the 440th Airlift Wing out of General Mitchell Air Reserve
7 Station, and throughout the other Wisconsin training venues, gives the taxpayer
8 more value for each dollar spent on training; and

9 Whereas, General Mitchell Air Reserve Station's physical facilities are
10 extremely well-maintained, both inside and outside, and there is room to develop
11 more than 30 acres of property to reach future expansion and training needs; and

12 Whereas, the 16 units assigned to the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station are
13 the 440th Logistics Group, 440th Logistics Support Squadron, 440th Maintenance
14 Squadron, 440th Operations Group, 440th Airlift Control Flight, 34th Aerial Port
15 Squadron, 440th Operations Support Flight, 95th Airlift Squadron, 440th Support
16 Group, 440th Mission Support Squadron, 440th Civil Engineering Squadron, 440th
17 Security Police Squadron, 440th Services Squadron, 440th Medical Squadron, 440th
18 Communications Flight and 440th Airlift Wing; and

19 Whereas, the 440th Airlift Wing was called to active duty in 1951 for the Korean
20 War and again in October 1962 for the Cuban Missile Crisis; and

21 Whereas, during Operation Desert Shield, volunteers from the 440th's Airlift
22 and Maintenance squadrons volunteered for 30-day rotations supporting the
23 operation; and

24 Whereas, in January of 1991, members of the 440th's Medical Squadron were
25 activated and deployed in support of Operation Desert Storm; and

1 Whereas, the 440th Airlift Wing has been participating in the Panama Rotation
2 since 1977 and has provided at least one aircraft and aircrew to support the reserve
3 rotation of South America each year; and

4 Whereas, members of the 440th Airlift Wing provided support to Operation
5 Uphold Democracy in Haiti and also to Operation Provide Promise, flying more than
6 100 humanitarian relief supply missions into war-torn Sarajevo; and

7 Whereas, the units at the 440th Airlift Wing are manned by approximately
8 1,300 reservists and approximately 350 full-time civilians, including 140 Air
9 Reserve technicians; and

10 Whereas, there are 9 Lockheed C-130H airlift assigned to the 440th Airlift
11 Wing in Milwaukee; and

12 Whereas, the 440th Airlift Wing was named the nation’s outstanding Air Force
13 Reserve unit in December 1963 and again in 1964; and

14 Whereas, in June of 1993, the Airlift Rodeo team representing the 440th Airlift
15 Wing won the overall Air Mobility command International Airlift Rodeo
16 championship, and earned the right to be called the “Best of the Best” in worldwide
17 air mobility; now, therefore, be it

18 ***Resolved by the assembly, the Senate concurring, That*** the members of the
19 Wisconsin legislature oppose the closure of the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station
20 and respectfully request that all members of the Wisconsin delegation to the U.S.
21 Congress support efforts to maintain the General Mitchell Air Reserve Station and
22 that they do whatever is necessary to remove the General Mitchell Air Reserve
23 Station from consideration for closure by the Defense Base Realignment and Closure
24 Commission; and, be it further

