

## **H. Res. 1010**

### ***In the House of Representatives, U. S.,***

*July 25, 2018.*

Whereas according to Air Force Chief of Staff General David Goldfein, the United States Air Force is “the smallest we’ve ever been”;

Whereas according to an April 2018 report from the Government Accountability Office, more than a quarter of fighter pilot positions are unfilled;

Whereas the Air Force has just 18,000 of the roughly 20,000 pilots it needs to crew its 5,500 fighters, bombers, airlifters, cargo planes, and rescue helicopters;

Whereas this 10 percent gap in its air crew requirement could, as Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson said in November of 2017, “break the force”;

Whereas almost  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the Air Force’s aircraft were not flyable, or mission-capable, at any given time in fiscal year 2017;

Whereas over the last decade, the total number of aircraft in the Air Force has been on a downward slope;

Whereas the total number of aircraft in the Air Force will drop again from fiscal year 2017 to fiscal year 2018;

Whereas the average age of an aircraft, forcewide, increased from 24 years in fiscal year 2010 to 27.6 years in fiscal year 2017; and

Whereas between fiscal years 2013 and 2017, accidents involving all Defense Department warplanes rose nearly 40 percent: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the United States Air Force faces significant readiness challenges due to aging aircraft and depleted personnel;

(2) Congress must provide the Air Force regular and sufficient funding to address procurement, maintenance, and staffing shortfalls; and

(3) without this funding, United States national security is at risk.

Attest:

*Clerk.*