

Senators O'Brien, Nofs, Schuitmaker, Jones, Zorn, Emmons, Colbeck, Knezek and Proos offered the following concurrent resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9.

A concurrent resolution to urge the U.S. Department of Defense, Missile Defense Agency to select the Fort Custer Training Center as the location for a new ground-based interceptor ballistic missile defense mission.

Whereas, The Fort Custer Training Center is one of four sites being considered for a new ground-based interceptor ballistic missile defense mission. Fort Custer is a 7,500-acre Michigan National Guard installation that supports all branches of the Armed Services, as well as law enforcement agencies and federal partners; and

Whereas, The Fort Custer Training Center is nationally recognized by the Department of Defense for its superior environmental stewardship, having won numerous environmental and energy awards from the Department of the Army. The selection of the ground-based interceptor ballistic missile defense mission will rely heavily on the installation's ability to support the mission and protect the environment. Therefore, Fort Custer's respect for the environment makes it a logical choice for the site selection; and

Whereas, The final site selection must be based upon the installation's ability to support the mission of the ground-based interceptor ballistic missile defense mission, but the cost to U.S. taxpayers to complete that mission should be important in the site selection process for the U.S. Department of Defense, Missile Defense Agency. Based upon information and belief, Fort Custer can support the mission and will provide the best value for U.S. taxpayers; and

Whereas, The ground-based interceptor ballistic missile defense system is the key defense tool protecting our state and nation from ballistic missile attacks. The placement of the ballistic missile defense system in Battle Creek will take full advantage of Fort Custer's strategic location and security. Michigan is prepared to support the construction and operation of the new missile defense system, as well as the personnel who will maintain it; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we urge the U.S. Department of Defense, Missile Defense Agency to select the Fort Custer Training Center as the location for a new ground-based interceptor ballistic missile defense mission; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the United States Missile Defense Agency, the United States Secretary of Defense, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.