

Amendment Offered by Mr. Courtney of Connecticut, Mr. Graves of Missouri and Mr. Walz of Minnesota

H.R. 1735—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016

In the appropriate place in the report, insert the following:

C-130H Modernization

The committee is encouraged that the Chief of Staff of the Air Force has proposed a plan that finally addresses the committee's longstanding concern for the modernization of C-130H aircraft that reside primarily in the National Guard and Reserve components of the Department of the Air Force. The Department of the Air Force has briefed the committee on multiple occasions on a new plan, which is being referred to as the Avionics and Modernization Program (AMP) Increments 1 and 2 that appears to address many of the committee's concerns. However, the committee remains concerned that the plan's timeline for implementation may still leave some C-130H aircraft noncompliant with future airspace requirements and still susceptible to increased diminishing manufacturing sources (DMS) and obsolescence issues. Specifically, the proposed timeline proposes to complete certain Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) compliance concerns by 2022, two years after FAA direction, requiring noncompliant aircraft to seek waivers or limit flight operations. Additionally, the AMP increment 2 only supports 8 aircraft modernizations per year which also does not appear to support a fleet viability requirement.

The committee supports an acceleration of the modernization effort both in terms of meeting FAA compliance by the 2020 deadline and acceleration of the increment 2 modernization plan. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to submit a report on the implementation of C-130H AMP Increments 1 and 2 to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2016. At a minimum, this report should address:

(1) The timeline for implementation of both AMP Increments 1 and 2;

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- (2) An assessment to accelerate AMP Increment 1 to ensure all C-130H aircraft are compliant with all airspace requirements by 2020 to include the possibility of using existing contracting offices such as the Rapid Acquisition Office to accelerate these upgrades;
- (3) An assessment to accelerate the build rate for AMP Increment 2 in order to address future DMS and obsolescence issues; and
- (4) Any plans for recapitalization of Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve C-130 aircraft.

The committee understands that the Department of the Air Force will require additional resources to begin implementing this new plan and therefore recommends \$10.0 million for C-130 AMP, an increase of \$10.0 million.

Table Reductions:

In Section 4101 of division D, relating to Aircraft Procurement, Air Force, line 033, reduce the amount for C-37 communications upgrades by \$10,000,000.

Table Increases:

In Section 4101 of division D, relating to Aircraft Procurement, Air Force, line 044, increase the amount for C-130 by \$10,000,000.