

LARSON URGES PASSAGE OF AEROSPACE REVITALIZATION BILL FOLLOWING RELEASE OF REPORT ON INDUSTRY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 18, 2002

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WASHINGTON, D.C.- U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) today urged action on his legislation to revitalize America's aerospace industry following the release of the Final Report of the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry. Larson's legislation, the Aerospace Research and Development Revitalization Act, H.R. 4653, would provide focused investments to promote more fuel-efficient, less polluting aircraft. This is to ensure that the U.S. retains its status as the leader in the field in light of declining market share and research and development investment on the part of government and private industry.

Larson stated: "I applaud the exceptional work that the commission has produced in this report. It clearly shows that the aerospace industry is one of the cornerstones of our economy and that we simply cannot allow this critical industry to fall behind in the global market. As I have argued, and Commission's report confirms, in order to retain our position as the leader in aerospace and aviation technology, development and manufacturing requires a more significant, sustained investment on the part of the federal government.

"We have seen U.S. market share of this industry fall dramatically in the last 20 years, which has coincided with a similar drop in U.S. research and development funding. Earlier this year I introduced legislation, the Aerospace Research and Development Revitalization Act, H.R.4653, in response to this troubling pattern to ensure that our aerospace industry gains strength and remains second to none in the world. The recommendations included in the report clearly add further justification for the need to pass this legislation and to reverse the trend of declining US dominance in aviation," said Larson.

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