

## 4/06/2009 Moran's Statement on Sec. Gates' Tanker Recommendation

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WASHINGTON, D.C. &ndash; Congressman Jerry Moran made the following statement after Defense Secretary Robert Gates gave his budget recommendation - during a press conference today - to maintain the aerial refueling tanker schedule and funding. Moran was pleased Sec. Gates gave a recommendation to begin the competition process to replace the aging tanker fleet this summer.

&ldquo;Modernizing our Eisenhower-era tanker fleet is a top priority for our military and should not be delayed. While I have concerns about recommendations announced today to cut important defense programs, I am pleased that the military continues to recognize that a timely and fair tanker competition is vital for the safety of our military personnel and the security of our country. I hope that now President Obama and Congress agree to this recommendation and provide our military the resources they need.&rdquo;

In March, Moran sent a letter asking President Obama to reconsider his instruction to the Pentagon that would have delayed, by five years, the Air Forces&rsquo; procurement of refueling tankers.

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