



KC-46A Recapitalization

Fiscal Year 2027 Requirements for the Air National Guard



Recommendation

The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) urges Congress to support:

- 4 KC-46A Aircraft designated for the Air National Guard

KC-46 Pegasus from Pease Air National Guard Base, N.H., participate in an elephant walk, Sept. 8, 2021.



A Pennsylvania Air National Guard KC-135 aircraft from the 171st Air Refueling Wing located in Pittsburgh prepares to land Oct. 17, 2025.

Problem

The Air National Guard KC-135 Stratotanker fleet requires continued funding for modernization and KC-46 Pegasus recapitalization to ensure its aircraft can successfully engage in overseas contingency operations and respond to homeland emergencies well into the future.



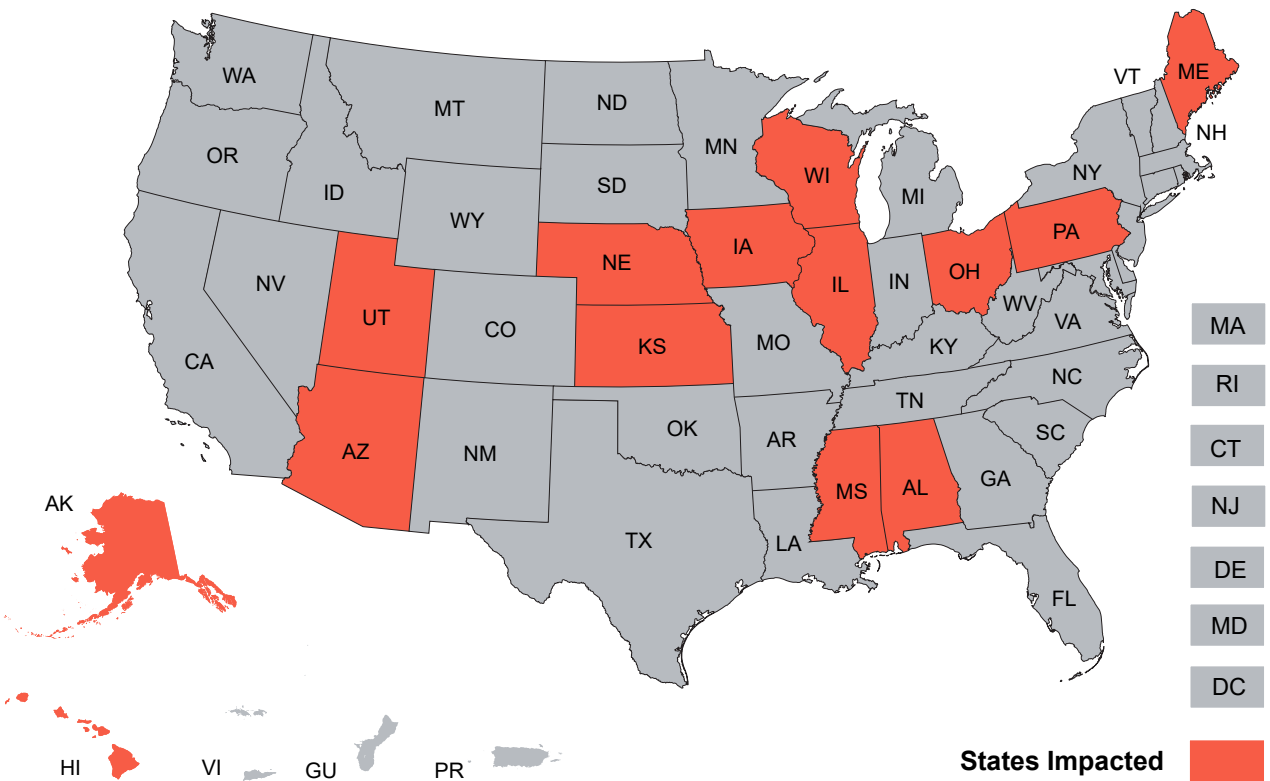
NGAUS POC: Pete Boone, Peter.Boone@ngaus.org
Government Affairs Manager, Air National Guard





Background

The Air National Guard aerial refueling tanker fleet is comprised of both the KC-135, which is over 60 years old, and the newer KC-46 aircraft. Currently, the Air National Guard possesses 37% of the Department of the Air Force refueling capacity, yet is only programmed to receive 19% of the Air Force KC-46 fleet. Because the need for this critical aerial refueling capability is essential for any contingency operations, it is crucial to modernize the Air National Guard KC-135 fleet with modern technology while continuing to recapitalize its aging tanker fleet with new KC-46 aircraft. Funding critical modernization efforts will ensure the safety, reliability, and effectiveness of the Air National Guard KC-135 fleet, both at home and abroad, while we continue emphasizing the need for additional KC-46 procurement for the Air National Guard.



To date, only the New Hampshire Air National Guard has fully recapitalized from the KC-135 to the KC-46, with both Michigan and Tennessee programmed to receive KC-46 aircraft in the near future. The remaining 14 states including Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, Hawaii, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Wisconsin remain flying the KC-135 aircraft. Continued support by Congress to recapitalize these remaining 14 states with KC-46 Pegasus remains a top priority for NGAUS.



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