

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 57

2 BY SENG

3 A Resolution urging the President of the United States  
4 and the United States Congress to take action to  
5 keep the Rock Island Arsenal open.

6 WHEREAS, from the 19th century to the present, the  
7 Rock Island Arsenal has been a part of the economic  
8 and government service history of the Quad Cities; and

9 WHEREAS, from an employment peak of 18,467 during  
10 the height of World War II, the arsenal workforce has  
11 shrunk to less than 7,000 employees, and is operating  
12 at only 26 percent capacity; and

13 WHEREAS, even at this reduced level, the Rock  
14 Island Arsenal employs nearly 7,000 people, making it  
15 the second largest employer in the area, supports  
16 another 12,000 additional jobs, and pumps more than  
17 \$855 million a year into the local economy; and

18 WHEREAS, the arsenal is a center for logistics and  
19 sustainment excellence for the U.S. Department of  
20 Defense (DOD) and is the home to four major U.S. Army  
21 headquarters organizations that have regional and  
22 global responsibilities to soldiers, ranging from army  
23 munitions management to regional installation  
24 management; and

25 WHEREAS, the arsenal also houses more than 50 other  
26 DOD organizations and provides infrastructure support  
27 to all the organizations at the Rock Island facility;  
28 and

29 WHEREAS, the arsenal is one of the world's largest  
30 weapons manufacturing facilities; and

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RULES & ADMINISTRATION

1 WHEREAS, the Rock Island Arsenal has repeatedly  
2 proven that, for small-quantity orders and specialty  
3 jobs, it has the expertise, equipment, and dedication  
4 to the defense of the United States that cannot be  
5 equaled in private industry; and

6 WHEREAS, the preliminary list of bases to be  
7 considered for closure by the Defense Base Realignment  
8 and Closure Commission includes the Rock Island  
9 Arsenal; and

10 WHEREAS, the closure of the Rock Island Arsenal  
11 could jeopardize the readiness of United States forces  
12 to quickly respond in the war on terror or in any  
13 future conflict; NOW THEREFORE,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate urges  
15 the President of the United States, the United States  
16 Congress, the Secretary of the Department of Defense,  
17 and the Chairperson of the Defense Base Realignment  
18 and Closure Commission to remove the Rock Island  
19 Arsenal from any further consideration for closure and  
20 that the arsenal facility be considered for the  
21 relocation of existing operations that are to be  
22 transferred as part of the current closure process;  
23 and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an official copy of  
25 this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
26 United States, the Secretary of the United States  
27 Department of Defense, the Chairperson of the Defense  
28 Base Realignment and Closure Commission, and to  
29 members of the Iowa congressional delegation.

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