A JOINT RESOLUTION

RENEWING THE DESIGNATION OF WILLIAMS GATEWAY AIRPORT AS A MILITARY REUSE ZONE.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)
Whereas, Williams Air Force Base closed on September 30, 1993, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510) and the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Committee; and

Whereas, Williams Air Force Base was used for operational and training purposes for the active uniformed services of the United States; and

Whereas, Williams Air Force Base was the largest flying training base in the free world and, during its fifty-two years of operation, graduated more than twenty-six thousand student pilots and trained twenty-five to thirty per cent of the nation's yearly output of United States Air Force pilots; and

Whereas, the closure of Williams Air Force Base resulted in the loss of more than thirty-eight hundred jobs and $300,000,000 of economic activity, and the State of Arizona and local communities, faced with the challenge of replacing these losses, formed a unique partnership to develop a comprehensive economic reuse plan for Williams Air Force Base; and

Whereas, a primary component of this economic reuse initiative was the 1992 enactment of Arizona's Defense Restructuring and Military Reuse Zone Programs, a forward thinking legislative framework that designated closed military bases in Arizona as Military Reuse Zones and that included targeted economic incentives for aviation and aerospace businesses creating new jobs and making capital investments within these zones; and

Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport Authority desired to establish a civil airport on a portion of the lands comprising Williams Air Force Base and applied to the Air Force for a public benefit transfer of these lands with improvements on these lands together with certain related personal property, under 49 United States Code section 47151; and

Whereas, the Air Force determined that the property identified in the Williams Gateway Airport Authority's application was excess and approved and accepted the application, pursuant to its authority under the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, to dispose of the real property and related personal property comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base; and

Whereas, the Secretary of the Air Force ultimately transferred to the Williams Gateway Airport Authority title to the premises and property consisting of certain lands with improvements on those lands, comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the quitclaim deed, executed on April 14, 1998 and recorded in Maricopa County on April 30, 1998; and

Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport was designated a Military Reuse Zone in 1996 pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) section 41-1531 and Executive Order 96-12, which designation was to terminate in August 2001; and
Whereas, the Williams Gateway Airport designation as a Military Reuse Zone was renewed on July 23, 2001 pursuant to A.R.S. section 41-1531 and Executive Order 01-14, which designation was to terminate in July 2006; and

Whereas, pursuant to A.R.S. section 41-1531, subsection B, the Legislature and the Governor by joint resolution may further renew the Military Reuse Zone designation for an additional ten-year term; and

Whereas, the Military Reuse Zone designation at Williams Gateway Airport has been an important component of the economic redevelopment strategy that attracted thirty-nine companies and created more than fourteen hundred jobs in the zone since 1996; and

Whereas, the renewal of the Military Reuse Zone designation will continue to facilitate state and local economic re adjustment efforts by providing opportunities for commercial and industrial development, including major infrastructure improvements that will spur job creation and accelerate redevelopment growth.

Therefore

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

1. That the Members of the Forty-eighty Legislature and the Governor of the State of Arizona renew as a Military Reuse Zone the Williams Gateway Airport premises and property consisting of certain lands with improvements on those lands comprising a portion of Williams Air Force Base, more particularly described in the quitclaim deed executed on April 14, 1998 between the Secretary of the Air Force, on behalf of the United States of America, and the Williams Gateway Airport Authority, and recorded in Maricopa County on April 30, 1998.

2. That the renewal of the Williams Gateway Airport premises and property as a Military Reuse Zone be made retroactive to July 23, 2006.

3. That, pursuant to A.R.S. section 41-1531, subsection B, the termination date for this Military Reuse Zone be set for ten years from July 23, 2006.

4. That the Secretary of State transmit copies of this Resolution to the Williams Gateway Airport Authority.