



Air Force Association **Top Issues for 2010**

The following recommendations for the federal government are drawn from the Air Force Association's 2010 Statement of Policy, "A Balanced Air Force," adopted by the delegates to the AFA National Convention on Sept. 12, 2009, in National Harbor, Md. The full text is available at www.afa.org/AboutUs/PolicyIssues.asp.

1

SUPPORTING OUR AIRMEN

- The Air Force Association salutes all of our troops for their service.
- The Air Force Association will strongly oppose any effort to change Tricare.

2

RECAPITALIZING THE AGING FLEET

- Begin the production of new tankers.
- Continue acquisition of the C-17, modification of the C-5B/Cs, and gain the flexibility to retire the older C-5As.
- Increase the production rate of the F-35.
- Retain CSAR as a core Air Force mission and replace the CSAR helicopter.
- Take the necessary steps to ensure long-range strike capability is sustainable.

3

STRENGTHENING THE NUCLEAR ENTERPRISE

- Provide a life extension program that ensures safe, reliable, and secure nuclear weapons to deter, assure, and provide stability.
- Caution the Administration and Congress against large nuclear weapon reductions that will undermine our security.

4

SECURING SPACE AND CYBERSPACE

- Place an increased emphasis on space capabilities and robustly fund this critical mission area.
- Focus on developing the next generation of cyber security experts and capabilities now.

5

DEVELOPING AIR FORCE PEOPLE; EDUCATING AIRPOWER PROFESSIONALS

- Invest in technical education to build the support foundation the nation needs.
- Continue and expand national programs encouraging the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

6

INVESTING IN AIRPOWER

- Support a minimum defense spending base of four percent of the national gross domestic product.
- Urge DOD to establish a strategic plan to define the elements of a robust defense industrial base and the steps needed to maintain that robustness.