

Rep. Driehaus Presses DoD Officials on Joint Strike Fighter Engine

Representative Steve Driehaus today pressed Department of Defense officials on the Joint Strike Fighter Competitive Engine Program. Rep. Driehaus underscored the potential cost-savings to taxpayers and improvement in the quality of the product for our armed services through use of competitive procurement.

Below is the transcript of an excerpt from this hearing. Mr. Mike Sullivan, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, United States Government Accountability Office and Mr. John Roth, Deputy Comptroller for Program/Budget, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) answer a question as to whether or not a competition for the F-35 propulsion system ever occurred.

Minute 6:49 through Minute 7:25

CHAIRMAN TIERNEY:

"Thank you. Mr. Sullivan did you want to respond? To the competition, the original part of the question."

MR. SULLIVAN:

"I do. I think that you may be correct. I don't think that there was a competition on the Joint Strike Fighter for the engine. I think the competition was at the prime contractor level and GE happened to be a part of that team but they never competed the engine."

MR. ROTH:

"That's true. I won't dispute that. I meant the program in general. Yeah, absolutely. Yeah I agree with it."