

A-10 Aircraft

- *ROA urges Congress to maintain the A-10 aircraft inventory and provide sufficient funding for its continued operation and maintenance.*

The A-10 helps provide critical close-air ground support to U.S. troops in combat. The A-10 has consistently proven its ability to defend and provide effective aerial support for ground troops in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Deactivating the A-10 without fully assessing and testing the effectiveness of its replacement would impose unnecessary risks to U.S. ground forces at a time when the potential for another ground engagement has increased. Furthermore, operating and maintaining the A-10 is less expensive than its current replacement providing potential savings in the long run for the armed forces.

The A-10 is the **most cost-efficient close air support (CAS) aircraft in the Air Force** inventory. According to data provided by the Air Force in 2014, the operational cost per flying hour—which takes into account sustainment costs—for the A-10 (\$17,398) is 24%, 54%, and 68% less than F-16, F-15E, and the B-1, respectively.

B-52	\$67,475
B-1	\$54,218
F-15E	\$37,504
AC-130	\$37,492
F-16	\$22,954
A-10	\$17,398