

RESOLUTION
of the
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
expressing
SUPPORT FOR SPACE PROGRAM

Resolution No. 2010- M-19

WHEREAS, this is a defining period in our nation's history – a time for a genuine commitment to remain a leader in Space through a bold declaration of a defined purpose, an identified destination, and a clear timeframe;

WHEREAS, the ability to adequately guarantee the defense of this nation has in the past relied upon having the best Army, Navy and Air Force;

WHEREAS, the future clearly dictates the absolute necessity of remaining in control of Space, or otherwise ceding our destiny and that of our children to other nations;

WHEREAS, the importance of the United States remaining a leader in Space transcends national pride in prior achievements to a call for Space exploration that pushes the envelope in new innovations, new products and new industries that will secure our place as an economic superpower in a global and knowledge-based economy;

WHEREAS, dependence upon a foreign nation such as Russia for transport of American astronauts and payloads is neither reliable, economical, nor politically astute;

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has played a key role in our national Space program from its inception as the premier launch site with a \$4.1 billion state-wide economic output in 2008 alone, including \$103 million in state and local taxes, and a \$43.9 billion statewide aerospace federal, state and industry economic impact;

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has enthusiastically embraced and demonstrated its commitment to the Space program's continued presence in Florida with a total \$8 billion investment in infrastructure and a current Governor's budget which proposes \$32.6 million for Space;

WHEREAS, approximately 100,000 jobs statewide have been associated with the presence of the Space program in the State of Florida, making it one of the larger employers in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is privileged to share the experience of Space exploration and technology with thousands of visitors who contribute \$90 million annually to the economy when they visit the "Sunshine State" to experience the pride and excitement of participation in our nation's Space program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:**

Section 1. Declaration of Support for Space Program. The Orange County Board of County Commissioners hereby requests that the Florida Legislative Delegation, on behalf of all Floridians, actively and aggressively seek the following legislative support:

- a. Assurance that the United States remains the leader in Space with a strong declaration by the Administration of a goal, a destination and a time frame for human Space flight;
- b. Assurance that the United States is the primary provider for U.S. human Space flight to the International Space Station and our national laboratory with Russia in a secondary –not a primary – role, through the continuous ability to launch American astronauts and payloads on U.S. built heavy-lift vehicles, which includes the extension of Space Shuttle flights until new vehicles are ready to fly;
- c. Assurance that the United States remains competitive on the international level as an economic superpower, leading the world in research and technology that in turn improves life for all mankind by creating an environment that encourages Research and Development and ensures the full utilization of our national laboratory aboard the International Space Station.
- d. Assurance that the United States ensures its national security by retaining its military superiority, which reaches far into Space and depends in part upon the support of satellites through the continuous use of U.S. built vehicles, without reliance on foreign countries;
- e. Assurance that the United States remains the leader in Space exploration, with the commitment to fund construction of Florida's 21st century launch facilities, and the

- ability to secure partnerships with low earth orbit commercial operations by providing the necessary funds to permit responsive and supportive functions; and
- f. Assurance that the future workforce of the United States remains competitive in a global market by providing support for world-class STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education for primary, secondary and post-secondary students.

Effective date. This Resolution shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

APR 06 2010

DONE and ORDERED this _____ DAY of APRIL , 2010.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Richard T. Crotty*

for Richard T. Crotty
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Martha O. Haynie*
Martha O. Haynie Deputy Clerk

