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House Memorial

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2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
3 the United States Department of Defense to award the
4 contract for the creation, development, and implementation
5 of the Mobile User Objective System, known as MUOS, to the
6 project team from the State of Florida led by the Raytheon
7 Corporation in partnership with Honeywell Space Systems.

8
9 WHEREAS, one of the most important components of an
10 effective and efficient military, whether in periods of war or
11 peace, is its communications system, and

12 WHEREAS, because the military superiority of the United
13 States is based in large part on the use of technologically
14 advanced weaponry and weapons systems, it is of the utmost
15 importance that the United States military utilize an equally
16 advanced communications system, and

17 WHEREAS, the communications system currently being used by
18 the servicemen and servicewomen of the United States Armed
19 Forces provides limited connectivity and will fall below useful
20 performance standards by 2009, and

21 WHEREAS, the Mobile User Objective System, known as MUOS,
22 is a massive and dynamic communications network being developed
23 for the safety and security of the United States military, and

24 WHEREAS, MUOS, the United States Navy's next-generation
25 satellite communication system, solves the limitation problems
26 of the current system by providing a replacement which will
27 enable worldwide ground communications among all branches of the
28 United States military by 2009, and

29 WHEREAS, with the MUOS system, American military personnel
30 will have reliable radio communications capabilities from the

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31 air, ground, or sea, whether they are fighting in dense jungle
32 terrain or in urban war zones, and

33 WHEREAS, more importantly, because of its effectiveness and
34 efficiency, the MUOS communications system will save the lives
35 of men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces, and

36 WHEREAS, the United States Navy is scheduled to award the
37 \$6.2 billion contract for the MUOS system in the first quarter
38 of 2004, and

39 WHEREAS, with its proposal to secure the MUOS system
40 contract being led by the Raytheon Corporation's St. Petersburg
41 Division in partnership with Honeywell Space Systems in
42 Clearwater, the State of Florida is currently competing for the
43 contract against California's Lockheed-Martin, and

44 WHEREAS, under Florida's proposal, Raytheon would serve as
45 the prime contractor, responsible for overall system design,
46 integration, and communications software, and Honeywell would
47 develop the satellite's computer, which would provide control of
48 the payload that transmits signals among aircraft, ships,
49 military ground stations, military vehicles, and military
50 personnel, and

51 WHEREAS, the Raytheon/Honeywell Florida team has the
52 expertise and commitment to develop the technology, talent, and
53 resources needed to land this Tier I system project, and
54 Raytheon and Honeywell have already invested heavily in the
55 technology needed to develop such a timely and reliable
56 communications system, and

57 WHEREAS, the MUOS contract would create an estimated 1,000
58 high-technology jobs along the Interstate-4 corridor, paying an
59 average salary of \$65,000 per year, with staffing beginning in
60 mid-2004 and building to full strength in 2005, and

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61 WHEREAS, the high-wage project work would be spread
62 throughout Clearwater, Tampa, Orlando, and the Kennedy Space
63 Center, with labor income generated by the MUOS project
64 averaging \$65 million per year by the end of 2005, and

65 WHEREAS, the MUOS contract is scheduled to be completed in
66 2013 after the full constellation of satellites and ground
67 systems are in operation, and

68 WHEREAS, in keeping with Florida's long and proud history
69 in space integration and launch operations, securing the MUOS
70 contract would open the door for an influx of aerospace
71 technology work in the state, thus elevating the stature of
72 Florida's technology base, and

73 WHEREAS, MUOS would be a catalyst to increase engineering
74 and high-tech job opportunities in Florida, attracting companies
75 serving both the space and defense industry, and

76 WHEREAS, the initiation of the MUOS project would stimulate
77 business, engineering, and computer-related talents within
78 Florida's universities and would generate the required
79 specialized competencies among our graduates who are seeking
80 high-technology careers, and

81 WHEREAS, MUOS would establish Florida as a premier
82 academic, scientific, and technology leader in the nation, and

83 WHEREAS, state university officials are eager to partner in
84 this venture which would capitalize on the considerable
85 intellectual resources within our state university system, and

86 WHEREAS, by mobilizing the resources within its
87 institutions of higher education through internships, Florida
88 would cultivate a workforce that is focused on high-technology
89 and produce a steady stream of professionals who are prepared to

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90 bring innovative advancements to the space research and
 91 development industry, and

92 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the State of Florida invest
 93 in and leverage its intellectual assets in order to diversify
 94 its economy so that it no longer relies on substantial
 95 exploitation of its physical and natural assets, and

96 WHEREAS, the award of the MUOS contract to Raytheon would
 97 shift Florida's economic paradigm, freeing it from reliance on
 98 the tourism industry and enabling the state to cultivate high-
 99 paying jobs and stimulate the quality of education and research
 100 within the state university system, and

101 WHEREAS, the State of Florida is committed to assisting the
 102 Florida MUOS Team in technology development, is committed to
 103 recruiting engineers to support the MUOS project and retaining
 104 trained engineers and scientists within the state, and
 105 recognizes the need to support and enhance high-technology
 106 research in Florida's universities, NOW, THEREFORE,

107
 108 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 109

110 That the House of Representatives of the State of Florida
 111 urges the United States Department of Defense to award the
 112 contract for the creation, development, and implementation of
 113 the Mobile User Objective System, known as MUOS, to the project
 114 team from the State of Florida led by the Raytheon Corporation
 115 in partnership with Honeywell Space Systems.

116 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
 117 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
 118 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
 119 United States House of Representatives, to the United States

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120 Secretary of Defense, and to each member of the Florida
121 delegation to the United States Congress.