

By Senator Jones

13-1998-04

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Senate Memorial No. \_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

1           WHEREAS, with the MUOS system, American military  
2 personnel will have reliable radio communications capabilities  
3 from the air, ground, or sea, whether they are fighting in  
4 dense jungle terrain or in urban war zones, and

5           WHEREAS, more importantly, because of its effectiveness  
6 and efficiency, the MUOS communications system will save the  
7 lives of men and women serving in the United States Armed  
8 Forces, and

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

12           WHEREAS, with its proposal to secure the MUOS system  
13 contract being led by the Raytheon Corporation's St.  
14 Petersburg Division in partnership with Honeywell Space  
15 Systems in Clearwater, the State of Florida is currently  
16 competing for the contract against California's  
17 Lockheed-Martin, and

18           WHEREAS, under Florida's proposal, Raytheon would serve  
19 as the prime contractor, responsible for overall system  
20 design, integration, and communications software, and  
21 Honeywell would develop the satellite's computer, which would  
22 provide control of the payload that transmits signals among  
23 aircraft, ships, military ground stations, military vehicles,  
24 and military personnel, and

25           WHEREAS, the Raytheon/Honeywell Florida team has the  
26 expertise and commitment to develop the technology, talent,  
27 and resources needed to land this Tier I system project, and  
28 Raytheon and Honeywell have already invested heavily in the  
29 technology needed to develop such a timely and reliable  
30 communications system, and

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1           WHEREAS, the MUOS contract would create an estimated  
2 1,000 high-technology jobs along the Interstate-4 corridor,  
3 paying an average salary of \$65,000 per year, with staffing  
4 beginning in mid-2004 and building to full strength in 2005,  
5 and

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

10           WHEREAS, the MUOS contract is scheduled to be completed  
11 in 2013 after the full constellation of satellites and ground  
12 systems are in operation, and

13           WHEREAS, in keeping with Florida's long and proud  
14 history in space integration and launch operations, securing  
15 the MUOS contract would open the door for an influx of  
16 aerospace technology work in the state, thus elevating the  
17 stature of Florida's technology base, and

18           WHEREAS, MUOS would be a catalyst to increase  
19 engineering and high-tech job opportunities in Florida,  
20 attracting companies serving both the space and defense  
21 industry, and

22           WHEREAS, the initiation of the MUOS project would  
23 stimulate business, engineering, and computer-related talents  
24 within Florida's universities and would generate the required  
25 specialized competencies among our graduates who are seeking  
26 high-technology careers, and

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

29           WHEREAS, state university officials are eager to  
30 partner in this venture which would capitalize on the

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1 considerable intellectual resources within our state  
2 university system, and

3 WHEREAS, by mobilizing the resources within its  
4 institutions of higher education through internships, Florida  
5 would cultivate a workforce that is focused on high-technology  
6 and produce a steady stream of professionals who are prepared  
7 to bring innovative advancements to the space research and  
8 development industry, and

9 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the State of Florida  
10 invest in and leverage its intellectual assets in order to  
11 diversify its economy so that it no longer relies on  
12 substantial exploitation of its physical and natural assets,  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the award of the MUOS contract to Raytheon  
15 would shift Florida's economic paradigm, freeing it from  
16 reliance on the tourism industry and enabling the state to  
17 cultivate high-paying jobs and stimulate the quality of  
18 education and research within the State University System, and

19 WHEREAS, the State of Florida is committed to assisting  
20 the Florida MUOS Team in technology development, is committed  
21 to recruiting engineers to support the MUOS project and  
22 retaining trained engineers and scientists within the state,  
23 and recognizes the need to support and enhance high-technology  
24 research in Florida's universities, NOW, THEREFORE,

25  
26 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

27  
28 That the Senate of the State of Florida urges the  
29 United States Department of Defense to award the contract for  
30 the creation, development, and implementation of the Mobile  
31 User Objective System, known as MUOS, to the project team from

1 the State of Florida led by the Raytheon Corporation in  
2 partnership with Honeywell Space Systems.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
4 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
5 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
6 United States House of Representatives, to the United States  
7 Secretary of Defense, and to each member of the Florida  
8 delegation to the United States Congress.

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