

By the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Services

577-864-05

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Commission on the Future

3 of Space in Florida; creating the commission;

4 providing for its membership; providing for

5 meetings; establishing voting requirements;

6 providing duties of the commission; providing

7 for public hearings; requiring reports;

8 providing for technical advisory committees;

9 providing for reimbursement of commission

10 members; providing for an executive director;

11 providing for staff assistance by the

12 Department of Transportation, and for

13 reimbursement of consultants by the department

14 under certain circumstances; providing for

15 expiration of the commission; providing an

16 appropriation; providing an effective date.

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18 WHEREAS, the aerospace industry comprises an important

19 segment of Florida's present and future economy, and

20 WHEREAS, intense nationwide and international

21 competition for the future development of this industry is

22 already underway, and

23 WHEREAS, the diversification of Florida's aerospace

24 industry, and the strengthening of Florida's space-related

25 research and development initiatives, are critical components

26 to the future of Florida's aerospace industry, and

27 WHEREAS, Florida must ensure that the state is

28 optimally positioned for NASA's new Vision for Space

29 Exploration, and

30 WHEREAS, effective action and the necessary

31 coordination of Florida's space-related resources must be

1 based on a reliable assessment of the present climate for the
2 aerospace industry in the state, and

3 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds there is a need to
4 comprehensively consider the various options available for
5 legislative action related to the multibillion dollar
6 aerospace industry in this state, NOW, THEREFORE,

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. (1) The Commission on the Future of Space
11 in Florida is created. The commission shall be composed of 13
12 voting members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor,
13 three of whom are appointed by the President of the Senate,
14 and three of whom are appointed by the Speaker of the House of
15 Representatives. In consultation with the state's
16 Congressional Delegation, the Governor shall appoint two
17 members of the delegation or their designees to serve as ex
18 officio, nonvoting members of the commission. In addition, the
19 Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of Transportation, and the
20 director of Workforce Innovation or their designees shall
21 serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the commission. The
22 Governor's appointments must include at least one appointment
23 from each of the following groups:

24 (a) Aerospace manufacturing.

25 (b) Aerospace operations and maintenance.

26 (c) Aerospace finance.

27 (d) Aerospace research.

28 (e) Commercial aerospace services.

29 (f) Florida Space Authority.

30 (g) Enterprise Florida, Inc.

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1 The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives shall each select one appointee from three of
3 the seven groups listed in paragraphs (a)-(g) and, in
4 addition, shall each appoint one member from their respective
5 chambers of the Legislature to serve ex officio on the
6 commission as nonvoting members. Appointments under this
7 subsection shall be made within 30 days after the effective
8 date of this act, and the first meeting shall be held no later
9 than September 1, 2005. The chair of the commission shall be
10 elected from among the voting members by majority vote of the
11 membership at its first meeting. Meetings shall be held upon
12 the call of the chair, but not less frequently than monthly.
13 Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the commission
14 shall be filled in the same manner as the original
15 appointment.

16 (2) Each voting member of the commission is entitled
17 to one vote, and action of the commission requires a majority
18 vote of the voting members present. Action may not be taken if
19 fewer than a majority of all voting members are present.

20 (3) The commission shall:

21 (a) Survey current federal, state, and local laws,
22 ordinances, and rules that affect the development and
23 regulation of the aerospace industry in Florida and recommend
24 ways that will promote growth and the diversification of the
25 industry.

26 (b) Examine the ways in which aerospace industries,
27 including the component elements of manufacturing, assembly,
28 marketing, servicing, maintenance, logistical support, human
29 resources, and related research and development can be
30 attracted to locate permanently in the state, and recommend
31 actions that can be taken by the state and local governments

1 to accomplish this goal, including, but not limited to,
2 possible financing alternatives.

3 (c) Examine the state's space-related programs and, if
4 necessary, recommend needed policy changes, including the
5 possible restructuring of state space-related entities.

6 (d) Review existing studies to evaluate the operation
7 of commercial aerospace services in the state, identify
8 underserved locations, and recommend actions that can be taken
9 to improve the availability, efficiency, and economy of the
10 state's commercial aerospace services.

11 (e) Identify the advances that can be expected in the
12 future in aerospace operations, aerospace transport, aerospace
13 education, aerospace tourism, and other aerospace areas, and
14 make recommendations regarding how the state can anticipate,
15 encourage, and accommodate such advances.

16 (f) Identify federal aid available to improve the
17 state's aerospace infrastructure and services and recommend
18 strategies to obtain such aid.

19 (g) Determine whether the state's secondary and
20 postsecondary schools are producing a highly qualified
21 workforce in sufficient numbers to meet the needs of the
22 aerospace industry.

23 (4) The commission must hold at least five public
24 hearings in different regions of the state to solicit input
25 from the public on the future of space in the state.

26 (5) The commission shall prepare a preliminary report
27 of its findings and recommendations by December 31, 2005, and
28 a final report with specific recommendations by January 15,
29 2006. The Department of Transportation shall prepare
30 legislative recommendations consistent with the commission's
31 report for consideration by the 2006 Legislature. Copies of

1 the reports shall be submitted to the Governor, the President
2 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
3 Representatives.

4 (6) The commission may appoint technical advisory
5 committees. Commission members and the members of any
6 technical advisory committees may not receive remuneration for
7 their services, but members other than public officers and
8 employees are entitled to be reimbursed by the Department of
9 Transportation for travel or per diem expenses in accordance
10 with section 112.061, Florida Statutes. Public officers and
11 employees shall be reimbursed by their respective agencies in
12 accordance with section 112.061, Florida Statutes.

13 (7) The commission may appoint an executive director,
14 who shall report to the commission and serve at its pleasure.
15 The Department of Transportation shall provide the commission
16 and the executive director with staff assistance. The
17 department may, upon the request of the commission, reimburse
18 consultants if such costs can be funded from the appropriation
19 provided for in this act.

20 (8) All agencies under the control of the Governor are
21 directed, and all other agencies are requested, to render
22 assistance and cooperation to the commission.

23 (9) The commission is abolished, and this section
24 expires, January 16, 2006.

25 Section 2. The sum of \$300,000 is appropriated from
26 the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Transportation
27 for the purpose of implementing this act during the 2005-2006
28 fiscal year.

29 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Creates the Commission on the Future of Space in Florida to study the aerospace industry and make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the future development of the industry. Requires the commission to file a final report by January 15, 2006, and requires the Department of Transportation to prepare legislative recommendations consistent with the report.