

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the aerospace industry; creating the
 3 Commission on the Future of Space in Florida; providing
 4 for membership and organization of the commission;
 5 providing procedures for action by the commission;
 6 authorizing the commission to appoint an executive
 7 director; providing for administrative and staff
 8 assistance from the Department of Transportation;
 9 providing for compensation of consultants; providing
 10 duties of the commission; requiring the commission to
 11 identify, examine, and review certain information related
 12 to aerospace and the aerospace industry; authorizing the
 13 commission to appoint technical advisory committees;
 14 authorizing reimbursement of travel expenses; requiring a
 15 certain number of meetings in various regions of the
 16 state; directing certain agencies and requesting other
 17 agencies to render assistance and cooperation; requiring
 18 preliminary and final reports; requiring the Department of
 19 Transportation to prepare legislative recommendations
 20 consistent with the report; abolishing the commission;
 21 providing an expiration date; providing for an
 22 appropriation; providing an effective date.

24 WHEREAS, the aerospace industry comprises an important
 25 segment of Florida's present and future economy, and

26 WHEREAS, intense nationwide and international competition
 27 for the future development of this industry is already underway,
 28 and

29 WHEREAS, the diversification of Florida's commercial,
 30 civil, and military aerospace industry and the strengthening of
 31 Florida's space-related research and development initiatives,
 32 including initiatives related to commercial, civil, and military
 33 space, are critical components of the future of Florida's
 34 aerospace industry, and

35 WHEREAS, Florida must ensure that the state is optimally
 36 positioned for NASA's new Vision for Space Exploration, and

37 WHEREAS, effective action and the necessary coordination of
 38 Florida's space-related resources must be based on a reliable
 39 assessment of the present climate for the aerospace industry in
 40 the state, and

41 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds there is a need to
 42 comprehensively consider the various options available for
 43 legislative action related to the multibillion-dollar aerospace
 44 industry in this state, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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48 Section 1. Commission on the Future of Space in Florida.--

49 (1) The Commission on the Future of Space in Florida is
 50 created. The commission shall be composed of 13 voting members,
 51 7 of whom are appointed by the Governor, 3 of whom are appointed
 52 by the President of the Senate, and 3 of whom are appointed by
 53 the Speaker of the House of Representatives. In consultation
 54 with the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor shall
 55 appoint two members of the delegation or their designees to
 56 serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the commission. In

57 addition, the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of Transportation,
58 executive director of the Florida Space Authority, and director
59 of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or their designees shall
60 serve as ex officio, nonvoting members of the commission. The
61 Governor's appointments must include at least one appointment
62 from seven of the following groups:

- 63 (a) Aerospace manufacturing.
64 (b) Aerospace operations and maintenance.
65 (c) Aerospace finance.
66 (d) Aerospace research.
67 (e) Aerospace defense.
68 (f) Commercial aerospace services.
69 (g) An aerospace business with fewer than 250 employees.
70 (h) Enterprise Florida, Inc.

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72 The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
73 Representatives shall each select one appointee from three of
74 the groups listed in paragraphs (a)-(h) and, in addition, shall
75 each appoint one member from their respective chambers of the
76 Legislature to serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.
77 Appointments under this subsection shall be made before July 31,
78 2005, and the first meeting shall be held no later than
79 September 1, 2005. The chair of the commission shall be elected
80 from among the voting members by majority vote of the membership
81 at its first meeting. Meetings shall be held upon the call of
82 the chair but not less frequently than monthly. Any vacancy
83 occurring in the membership of the commission shall be filled in
84 the same manner as the original appointment.

85 (2) Each voting member of the commission is entitled to
 86 one vote, and action of the commission requires a majority vote
 87 of the voting members present. Action may not be taken if less
 88 than a majority of all voting members is present.

89 (3) The commission may appoint an executive director who
 90 shall report to the commission and serve at its pleasure. The
 91 Department of Transportation shall provide the commission and
 92 the executive director with staff assistance. The department
 93 may, upon the request of the commission, pay compensation to
 94 consultants if such costs can be funded from the appropriation
 95 provided for in this act.

96 (4) The commission shall:

97 (a) Identify the current and future opportunities in
 98 aerospace operations, aerospace transport, aerospace education,
 99 aerospace tourism, and other aerospace areas and make
 100 recommendations for how the state can capitalize on such
 101 opportunities.

102 (b) Review current federal, state, and local laws,
 103 ordinances, and rules that affect the aerospace industry in the
 104 state and recommend actions that will promote growth and
 105 diversification of the industry.

106 (c) Examine the state's space-related policies and
 107 programs and recommend needed changes, including the possible
 108 restructuring of state space-related entities.

109 (d) Examine the ways in which aerospace industries,
 110 including the component elements of manufacturing, assembly,
 111 marketing, servicing, maintenance, logistical support, human
 112 resources, and related research and development, can be

113 attracted to locate permanently or expand in the state and
114 recommend actions that can be taken by the state and local
115 governments to accomplish this goal, including, but not limited
116 to, possible financing alternatives.

117 (e) Review existing studies to evaluate aerospace in the
118 state, identify underserved resources, and recommend actions
119 that can be taken to improve the competitiveness, availability,
120 efficiency, and economy of the aerospace industry of the state.

121 (f) Identify federal aid available to improve the state's
122 aerospace infrastructure and services and recommend strategies
123 to obtain such aid.

124 (g) Determine whether the state's secondary and
125 postsecondary schools are producing graduates who meet the
126 workforce needs of the state's aerospace industry and recommend
127 strategies to improve meeting those needs.

128 (5) The commission may appoint technical advisory
129 committees. Commission members and the members of any technical
130 advisory committees may not receive remuneration for their
131 services, but members other than public officers and employees
132 are entitled to be reimbursed by the Department of
133 Transportation for travel and per diem expenses in accordance
134 with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes. Public officers and employees
135 shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses by their
136 respective agencies in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida
137 Statutes.

138 (6) The commission must hold at least five public hearings
139 in different regions of the state to solicit input from the
140 public on the future of space in the state.

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141 (7) All agencies under the control of the Governor are
142 directed and all other agencies are requested to render
143 assistance and cooperation to the commission.

144 (8) The commission shall prepare a preliminary report of
145 its findings and recommendations by January 16, 2006, and a
146 final report with specific recommendations by January 30, 2006.
147 The Department of Transportation shall prepare legislative
148 recommendations consistent with the commission's reports for
149 consideration by the Legislature at the 2006 Regular Session.
150 Copies of the reports shall be submitted to the Governor, the
151 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
152 Representatives.

153 (9) The commission is abolished, and this section expires,
154 on May 31, 2006.

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

159 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.