

By Senator Posey

24-43A-06

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Space Florida Act;
3 amending s. 331.368, F.S.; revising the purpose
4 of the institute; providing for the institute
5 to serve as a multi-university center for
6 research and technology development; requiring
7 the institute to submit a plan to the Board of
8 Governors for its operation; authorizing the
9 institute to leverage certain funding; revising
10 membership of the Board of the Florida Space
11 Research Institute; providing for the board to
12 invite participation of Embry Riddle
13 Aeronautical University; deleting a requirement
14 for the board to select a lead university;
15 deleting a requirement to comanage with the
16 National Aeronautics and Space Administration
17 the operation of the Space Experiment Research
18 and Processing Laboratory; providing for
19 comanagement of the Space Life Sciences Lab at
20 the John F. Kennedy Space Center; revising a
21 requirement that the board develop certain
22 initiatives to include space exploration;
23 revising a requirement that the board
24 coordinate and conduct research in certain
25 fields to include space exploration; providing
26 appropriations; providing effective dates.

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

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30 Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), and (7) of section
31 331.368, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1 331.368 Florida Space Research Institute.--

2 (1) There is created the Florida Space Research
3 Institute, the purpose of which is to serve as an
4 industry-driven center for research, leveraging the state's
5 resources in a collaborative effort to support Florida's space
6 industry and its expansion, diversification, and transition to
7 commercialization.

8 (a) The institute shall submit a plan to the Board of
9 Governors before June 30, 2006, for its operation as a
10 multi-university center for space-focused research and
11 technology development, consistent with the emerging needs of
12 government and commercial space programs.

13 (b) The institute may leverage annual funding from the
14 National Aeronautics and Space Administration for grants to
15 Florida academic institutions and industry for the purpose of
16 growing and diversifying the state's role in space research
17 and sponsoring education and training projects that will
18 support future needs in the state for an aerospace workforce.

19 (2) The institute shall operate as a public/private
20 partnership under the direction of a board composed of:

21 (a) A representative of the Florida Space Authority.

22 (b) A representative of Enterprise Florida, Inc.

23 (c) A representative of the Florida Aviation Aerospace
24 Alliance.

25 ~~(d) A representative of the Florida Space Business~~
26 ~~Roundtable.~~

27 (d)(e) Additional private-sector representatives from
28 the space industry selected collaboratively by the core
29 members specified in paragraphs (a)-(c)~~(d)~~. The additional
30 space industry representatives under this paragraph must
31 comprise the majority of members of the board and must be from

1 geographic regions throughout the state. Each private-sector
2 representative shall be appointed to a term of 3 years.

3 ~~(e)(f)~~ At least two representatives from the
4 educational community who are selected collaboratively by the
5 core members specified in paragraphs (a)-~~(c)(d)~~ and who are
6 engaged in research or instruction related to the space
7 industry. One representative must be from a community college,
8 and one representative must be from a public or private
9 university. Each educational representative shall be appointed
10 to a term of 2 years.

11 ~~(f)(g)~~ Additional ex officio, nonvoting
12 representatives selected collaboratively by the core members.

13 (7) The board of the Florida Space Research Institute
14 shall:

15 (a) Set the strategic direction for the space-related
16 research priorities of the state and its space-related
17 businesses, the scope of research projects for the institute,
18 and the timeframes for completion.

19 (b) Invite the participation of public and private
20 academic institutions, including, but not limited to, the
21 University of Central Florida, the University of Florida, the
22 University of South Florida, Florida State University, Florida
23 Institute of Technology, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University,
24 and the University of Miami.

25 ~~(c) Select a lead university to:~~
26 ~~1. Serve as coordinator of research for the institute;~~
27 ~~2. Support the institute's development of a statewide~~
28 ~~space research agenda and programs; and~~
29 ~~3. Develop, and update as necessary, a report~~
30 ~~recommending ways that the state's public and private~~
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1 ~~universities can work in partnership to support the state's~~
2 ~~space industry requirements.~~

3 ~~(c)(d)~~ Establish a partnership with the state
4 Workforce Development Board, or its successor entity, under
5 which the institute coordinates the workforce-training
6 requirements identified by the space industry and supports
7 development of workforce-training initiatives to meet such
8 requirements, using training providers approved by the board
9 or its successor entity.

10 ~~(d)(e)~~ Comanage, with the National Aeronautics and
11 Space Administration and subject to the terms of an agreement
12 with NASA, operation of the a Space Life Sciences Lab at
13 ~~Experiment Research and Processing Laboratory, if such a~~
14 ~~facility is constructed on land of~~ the John F. Kennedy Space
15 Center. The institute shall carry out such responsibility
16 through a consortium of public and private universities in the
17 state led by the University of Florida.

18 ~~(e)(f)~~ Develop initiatives to foster the participation
19 of the state's space industry in the International Space
20 Station and space exploration and to help the state maintain
21 and enhance its competitive position in the commercial
22 space-transportation industry.

23 ~~(f)(g)~~ Pursue partnerships with the National
24 Aeronautics and Space Administration to coordinate and conduct
25 research in fields including, but not limited to, space
26 exploration, environmental monitoring; agriculture; aquatics;
27 resource reutilization technologies for long-duration space
28 missions; and spaceport technologies which support current or
29 next-generation launch vehicles and range systems.

30 ~~(g)(h)~~ Pursue partnerships with the National
31 Aeronautics and Space Administration for the conduct of

1 space-related research using computer technology to connect
2 experts in a given field of science who are in disparate
3 locations and to perform research experiments in a real-time,
4 virtual environment.

5 ~~(h)(i)~~ Appoint or dismiss, as deemed necessary by the
6 board, a person to act as executive director of the institute,
7 who shall have such other functions, duties, powers, and
8 salary as the board prescribes.

9 Section 2. Effective July 1, 2006, the sum of \$10
10 million is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the
11 Department of Education for the 2006-2007 fiscal year to
12 establish the Florida Space Research Institute as a
13 multi-university center for space research and technology
14 development.

15 Section 3. Effective July 1, 2006, the sum of \$1
16 million is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to
17 Florida Atlantic University to invest in the Florida Space
18 Research Institute's matching grant program with the National
19 Aeronautics and Space Administration.

20 Section 4. Except as otherwise provided in this act,
21 this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.
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