

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the space industry; providing a short  
 3           title; providing legislative findings; amending s.  
 4           331.3051, F.S.; revising duties of Space Florida to  
 5           include supporting the development and operation of the  
 6           Space Transportation Research and Development Institute;  
 7           creating s. 331.365, F.S.; establishing the  
 8           multiuniversity Space Transportation Research and  
 9           Development Institute within the Office of Tourism, Trade,  
 10          and Economic Development; providing for duties and  
 11          administration; providing an effective date.

12  
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14  
 15           Section 1. Short title.--This act may be cited as the  
 16 "Space Transportation Research and Development Institute Act."

17           Section 2. Legislative findings.--The Legislature finds  
 18 and declares that the anticipated impacts of the National  
 19 Aeronautics and Space Administration's retirement of the Space  
 20 Shuttle program reveal an underlying lack of diversification in  
 21 Florida's space industry. Florida lags significantly behind  
 22 other states in high-value, space-related research and  
 23 technology development while its space launch industry suffers  
 24 from outdated technologies and increased international and  
 25 domestic competition. The Legislature finds that the state  
 26 should expand statewide involvement in space research and  
 27 technology development programs that will leverage and improve  
 28 the state's space transportation industry through

29 multiuniversity partnerships with industry, the Federal Aviation  
 30 Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space  
 31 Administration, and the Department of Defense.

32 Section 3. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (8) of  
 33 section 331.3051, Florida Statutes, to read:

34 331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.--Space Florida shall:

35 (8) Carry out its responsibility for research and  
 36 development by:

37 (c) Supporting the development and operation of the Space  
 38 Transportation Research and Development Institute. Such support  
 39 may include, but not be limited to:

40 1. Providing the institute with advisory support for  
 41 defining the focus and scope of multiuniversity projects.

42 2. Providing the institute with access to the Cape  
 43 Canaveral Spaceport and other spaceport sites in the state,  
 44 including launch, laboratory, and processing facilities for  
 45 research and program management.

46 3. Providing the institute with support for the  
 47 development of the institute among relevant agencies and  
 48 policymakers in Washington, D.C., and Tallahassee.

49 4. Engaging the institute as a partner in support of space  
 50 policy, range and spaceport technology development, and other  
 51 space transportation technology programs.

52 5. Providing support to institute projects through the  
 53 Florida-NASA Matching Grant Program as provided in subsection  
 54 (10).

55 Section 4. Section 331.365, Florida Statutes, is created  
 56 to read:

57 331.365 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic  
58 Development; Space Transportation Research and Development  
59 Institute.--

60 (1) There is established within the Office of Tourism,  
61 Trade, and Economic Development a multiuniversity Space  
62 Transportation Research and Development Institute. The institute  
63 shall be a university-led program to perform high-impact space  
64 transportation research and technology development activities  
65 and provide policy analysis that will advance state and federal  
66 interests in improving the competitiveness of the space  
67 transportation industry. The institute shall be led by Embry-  
68 Riddle Aeronautical University and shall include other public  
69 and private universities in the state and outside the state. The  
70 institute shall support research focus areas including, but not  
71 limited to, spaceport licensing and safety; range and airspace  
72 management systems development, simulation, and qualification;  
73 spaceflight human factors issues; spaceflight passenger, crew,  
74 and technician training and certification; launch vehicle safety  
75 analysis; materials science for spaceflight; spaceport  
76 instrumentation, technologies, and processes; and other topics  
77 of interest to the Federal Aviation Administration, other  
78 federal agencies, state space transportation authorities, and  
79 industry.

80 (2) The institute shall be established in phases, with the  
81 initial phase focused on developing a management structure,  
82 establishing a formal relationship with the Federal Aviation  
83 Administration, and forming partnerships with academic  
84 institutions and industry.

HB 69

2009

85

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.