

By Senator Lynn

7-01022-09

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

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

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15 Section 1. Short title.—This act may be cited as the “Space
16 Transportation Research and Development Institute Act.”

17 Section 2. Legislative findings.—The Legislature finds and
18 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24 from outdated technologies and increased international and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

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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 development
47 of the institute among relevant agencies and policymakers in
48 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 to
56 read:

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

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

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

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