

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

NEIL L. BRADLEY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT &
CHIEF POLICY OFFICER

1615 H STREET, NW
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June 19, 2020

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shelby, Chairwoman Lowey, Vice Chairman Leahy, and Ranking Member Granger:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce urges you to fully support civilian and commercial space initiatives at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Department of Commerce.

The Chamber supports full funding for critical NASA programs to include the Space Launch System (SLS) and the Exploration Upper Stage (EUS), Orion spacecraft, Exploration Ground Systems (EGS), Gateway, and associated systems, technologies, and science needed for the Artemis Program to deliver crew and equipment to the lunar surface. Additionally, the Chamber urges robust funding for maintenance and operation of the International Space Station (ISS) as a platform as it marks its 20th anniversary of continuous crewed habitation this year and prepares for another decade of microgravity science as well as commercial research.

To facilitate growth of the commercial space sector, the Chamber strongly supports the Department of Commerce Office of Space Commerce budget request of \$15.0M. Specifically, this funding is essential for improvement of space situational awareness (SSA) data and services and development of technical prototypes and systems to mitigate conjunction risks in low-Earth orbit. In addition, this funding is necessary for the implementation of streamlined regulations for expanded commercial use of space.

Lastly, the Chamber applauds the return of human spaceflight from the United States and supports FAA's ongoing efforts to ensure safe launch and reentry operations in the National

Airspace System (NAS) through development of the Space Data Integrator (SDI). Accordingly, the Chamber supports the budget request for \$11.0M to continue development and test of an operational SDI capability to enhance safety, flight efficiency, and cost avoidance for commercial aviation and space launch operators.

The Chamber commends the long-standing dedication of your committees to human spaceflight and the future growth of the space sector and appreciates your consideration of these important programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neil L. Bradley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Neil L. Bradley

cc: Members of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations