



National Lieutenant Governors Association

NLGA Consensus Resolution Supporting United States Leadership in Space, Aeronautics, Aerospace Workforce Development, and National Security

WHEREAS, the United States has long been the global leader in space exploration and science, aeronautics innovation, and aerospace technology, contributing significantly to national security, economic growth, scientific discovery, and technological advancement, and

WHEREAS, the programs and missions of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), in partnership with the Department of Defense, commercial industry, and academic institutions, support critical national security capabilities including communications, navigation, missile warning, weather monitoring, intelligence support, and resilient space-based infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, sustained U.S. leadership in space is important to maintaining strategic advantage, protecting space assets, strengthening deterrence, and ensuring the security of the global space domain amid increasing international competition, and

WHEREAS, the United States is now engaged in a new space race with the People's Republic of China, which has made its ambitions clear, and

WHEREAS, state and territorial governments play a critical role in supporting national security missions through the development of aerospace manufacturing capacity, defense installations, research universities, innovation corridors, and workforce education pipelines that prepare engineers, technicians, and skilled trades professionals for aerospace and defense careers, and

WHEREAS, sustained and predictable federal investment in civil, commercial, and national security space programs can help maintain U.S. competitiveness, strengthen domestic supply chains, and ensure readiness for emerging security challenges in space and advanced aeronautics, and

WHEREAS, continued U.S. leadership in space exploration, including lunar and deep-space missions, space science research, and planetary defense initiatives, can strengthen international partnerships while reinforcing the United States' leadership in peaceful exploration and strategic technological advancement, and

WHEREAS, federal-state partnerships can be implemented and/or strengthened to expand aerospace and defense workforce pipelines, including STEM education, career-technical education, registered apprenticeships, and industry-aligned training programs that prepare Americans for high-demand aerospace and national security careers, and

WHEREAS, state government leaders can encourage policies that promote modernized regulatory frameworks, resilient aerospace supply chains, and investments in advanced manufacturing, launch infrastructure, and emerging aerospace technologies critical to both economic competitiveness and national security.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lieutenant Governors Association affirms its support for sustained United States leadership in space exploration and science, aeronautics innovation, aerospace competitiveness, and national security capabilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLGA encourages federal, state, industry, and academic partners to collaborate in ensuring the United States remains the global leader in aerospace innovation, exploration, and national security space capabilities for decades to come.

ADOPTED, this day, the 9th of April, 2026.

Co-Sponsors: Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser

Proposed for the docket by: Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser