

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA TO THE FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REGARDING THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING SPACE FLIGHT EXPERTISE AT THE KENNEDY SPACE CENTER AND ENSURING THAT FUTURE CREW AND CARGO LOGISTIC MISSIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION USE DOMESTIC CAPABILITIES

WHEREAS, the United States has a strategic interest in maintaining the nation's preeminence in spaceflight; the spaceflight expertise at the Kennedy Space Center is a center of excellence that should be maintained after the discontinuance of Space Shuttle missions; and the United States has obligations to provide crew and cargo logistic services to the International Space Station after the Shuttle is retired, and

WHEREAS, until the Constellation Program reaches operational status, the United States currently plans to substantially fulfill those obligations by purchasing logistic services with Russia, notably Soyuz and Progress flights; and these plans make the United States largely dependent on the Russians for a five year period or more in obtaining access to the International Space Station; and

WHEREAS, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has executed Space Act Agreements under the Commercial Orbital Transportation Services (COTS) Program to foster domestic commercial capability to provide crew and cargo logistics to the International Space Station, the COTS Program provides four different cargo and crew logistic capabilities known as Capabilities A, B, C and D; and the United States is the world's premier space faring nation because the American aerospace industry has consistently provided solutions to national needs including those of NASA; and

WHEREAS, these talents should be tasked to providing domestic solutions to America's crew and cargo's logistic needs; and resources to be spent on procuring Russian Soyuz and Progress logistic services would best be devoted to the development and procurement of domestic crew and cargo logistic capabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA, does hereby unanimously approve

That this Resolution be forwarded to the State of Florida Congressional Delegation with a request that the Delegation as a whole urge the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to immediately explore all possible domestic options including COTS Program Capabilities A, B, C and D to reduce or eliminate the need to procure foreign logistic services to the International Space Station,

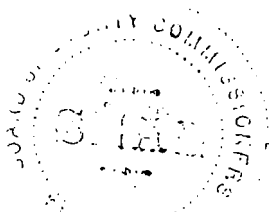
That such efforts should not be limited to cargo logistics but should aggressively target crew logistic needs including but not limited to COTS Capability D.

That the Delegation encourage the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to fully utilize the demonstrated excellence of the Kennedy Space Center for the integration and launch of these crew and cargo logistic operations.

DONE AND ORDERED in regular session at Perry, Taylor County, Florida, this 20th day of May 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TAYLOR COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Clay Bethea
CLAY BETHEA, CHAIRMAN



ATTEST: Annie Mae Murphy

ANNIE MAE MURPHY, CLERK