

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R20-1108.01 Bethanie Pack x4829

SJR20-018

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20-018

101 **CONCERNING DECLARING COLORADO TO BE THE MOST FITTING**
102 **PERMANENT LOCATION FOR THE UNITED STATES SPACE**
103 **COMMAND, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, URGING THE**
104 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO KEEP THE UNITED STATES SPACE**
105 **COMMAND IN COLORADO.**

1 WHEREAS, Our nation and the world have significantly
2 benefitted from technological and scientific advances resulting from
3 space exploration and aerospace activities, and Colorado is paving the
4 way for new discoveries in the frontiers of space by having a rich history
5 in aerospace development and being at the forefront of space travel,
6 exploration, and aerospace research; and

7 WHEREAS, Colorado is ranked number one in the country for

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

SENATE
Final Reading
March 10, 2020

1 aerospace employment with a strategically located aerospace center of
2 excellence with over 30,000 Coloradans directly employed in aerospace
3 and a payroll exceeding \$3.9 billion; an aerospace cluster that supports
4 more than 190,000 jobs; and 7.5 percent of Colorado's labor income
5 derived from Department of Defense (DoD) employment, and 6.5 percent
6 of the state's gross state product that is DoD-related; and

7 WHEREAS, Colorado is a leader for business growth, with the
8 number one economy in the country in 2019 according to the U.S. News
9 & World Report and ranked fourth in high-tech employment and fourth
10 on the State Technology and Science Index, supporting Colorado's
11 position as a top aerospace state economy and workforce; and

12 WHEREAS, Colorado's aerospace industry is home to a broad
13 range of companies that create products and systems for commercial,
14 military, and civil space applications, such as spacecraft, launch vehicles,
15 satellites, command and control software, sensors, and navigation
16 operations. These companies include Ball Aerospace, Boeing,
17 DigitalGlobe, Harris Corporation, Lockheed Martin Space Systems,
18 Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, Sierra Nevada Corporation, Teledyne
19 Brown Engineering, and United Launch Alliance, which make up the
20 aerospace sector; and

21 WHEREAS, Colorado is uniting global partners around the world
22 to ensure space access for developing nations via the first planned United
23 Nations space mission. Sierra Nevada Corporation, located in Louisville,
24 Colorado, together with the United Nations Office for Outer Space
25 Affairs, will use its Dream Chaser spacecraft to allow developing
26 countries the opportunity to develop and fly microgravity payloads for an
27 extended duration in orbit; and

28 WHEREAS, Colorado has an existing educated workforce, ranked
29 second in the nation with residents with a bachelor's degree or higher, and
30 a pipeline of higher institutions to sustain future growth. We are home to
31 the United States Air Force Academy and many colleges and universities,
32 including the University of Colorado Boulder and the University of
33 Colorado Colorado Springs, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State
34 University, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of
35 Denver, Colorado Mesa University, and Fort Lewis College. Altogether,
36 they provide access to world-class aerospace-related degrees and offer
37 aerospace companies one of the country's most educated workforces; and

1 WHEREAS, Colorado is home to some of the most prestigious
2 research institutions, such as the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space
3 Physics (LASP) at the University of Colorado Boulder. It began in 1948,
4 a decade before NASA, and is the world's only research institute to have
5 sent instruments to all eight planets and to Pluto, combining all aspects
6 of space exploration through science, engineering, mission operations,
7 and scientific data analysis; and

8 WHEREAS, Colorado is also home to the National Oceanic and
9 Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Space Weather Prediction Center,
10 a world-leading center of predictions of the solar and near-Earth space
11 environment and the nation's official source of watches, warnings, and
12 alerts of incoming solar storms, using satellite observations to protect and
13 save lives and property; and

14 WHEREAS, Colorado is strategically located at the center of our
15 national and space defense. We are the home to five key strategic military
16 commands: North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD),
17 United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), United States
18 Strategic Command's Joint Functional Component Command for Space
19 (JFCC Space) Missile Warning Center, the United States Air Force Space
20 Command, and the United States Army Space and Missile Defense
21 Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; and five military
22 installations, including United States Air Force bases Buckley, Cheyenne
23 Mountain, Peterson, and Schriever and Fort Carson Army base; and

24 WHEREAS, The 460th Space Wing at Buckley Air Force Base
25 provides operational command and control of three constellations of
26 space-based infrared missile warning systems, has been defending
27 America continuously since 1970, and is a critical part of global defense
28 and national security; and

29 WHEREAS, Colorado is already the center for United States
30 military space operations and strategy. According to the Colorado Space
31 Coalition (CSC), the state's military commands are the primary customers
32 for space-based research, development, acquisitions, and operations,
33 representing nearly 90 percent of space-related expenditure by the
34 military. Moving the United States Space Command to any other location
35 than Colorado will be incredibly disruptive to the National Defense
36 Strategy. In addition, it will cause a major upheaval in existing
37 infrastructure and jobs in the state, which will result in higher costs and
38 less efficient outcomes for the United States military; and

1 WHEREAS, Colorado leads the charge in bringing current and
2 future global positioning system (GPS) assets to life, a service provided
3 free to the world by Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs.
4 From the operation of GPS satellites by Schriever Air Force Base to GPS
5 III, the most powerful GPS satellite to date being designed and built by
6 Lockheed Martin and launched by United Launch Alliance with Raytheon
7 developing the command and control capabilities, and with companies
8 such as Boeing, Harris Corporation, Braxton Technologies, and Infinity
9 Systems Engineering also supporting GPS development and operations
10 from locations in Colorado, our GPS technologies enable an integral part
11 of our global economy to have an incalculable impact that has improved
12 the everyday lives of billions of people around the world; and

13 WHEREAS, Various organizations are key to Colorado's
14 prominence in aerospace, such as the Colorado Space Coalition, a group
15 of industry stakeholders working to make Colorado a center of excellence
16 for aerospace; the Colorado Space Business Roundtable, working to bring
17 together aerospace stakeholders from the industry, government, and
18 academia for roundtable discussions and business development and to
19 encourage grassroots citizen participation in aerospace issues; the
20 Colorado chapter of Citizens for Space Exploration, whose mission is to
21 promote better understanding of aerospace and its importance in our
22 economy and daily lives, as well as to promote the importance of human
23 space exploration; Manufacturer's Edge, a statewide manufacturing
24 assistance center that encourages the strength and competitiveness of
25 Colorado manufacturers by providing on-site technical assistance through
26 coaching, training, and consulting, by providing collaboration-focused
27 industry programs, and by leveraging government, university, and
28 economic development partnerships; and the Space Foundation, founded
29 in 1983, with its world headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado,
30 which holds an annual Space Symposium, bringing together civil,
31 commercial, and national security space leaders from around the world to
32 discuss, address, and plan for the future of space; now, therefore,

33 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-second General*
34 *Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives*
35 *concurring herein:*

36 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

37 (1) Recognizing Colorado's unique blend of military installations
38 and major commands, private aerospace companies, academic and

1 research institutions, and government entities, and the valuable synergies
2 this ecosystem produces, strongly urge the Department of Defense to keep
3 the existing United States Space Combatant Command in Colorado;

4 (2) Furthermore, we strongly urge the Department of Defense to
5 permanently base the United States Space Command (USSPACECOM)
6 in Colorado, recognizing that Colorado provides the existing command
7 structure, base infrastructure, and communications platforms necessary
8 to successfully host additional national security initiatives and ensure
9 coordination of efforts without committing restrictive additional funds;

10 (3) Proudly express that Colorado has deep ties with the
11 Department of Defense and immense patriotic commitment to providing
12 for the nation's security and bolstering our defense;

13 (4) Express our most sincere and deepest appreciation to our
14 service members and civilian employees working in and supporting
15 military and civilian aerospace companies, military installations, and civil
16 organizations in Colorado; and

17 (5) Hereby declare Colorado to be the prime location for
18 USSPACECOM.

19 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
20 to President Donald J. Trump; Vice President Michael R. Pence; House
21 Speaker Nancy Pelosi; House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy; Senate
22 Majority Leader Mitch McConnell; Senate Minority Leader Charles E.
23 Schumer; Senator Michael Bennet; Senator Cory Gardner;
24 Congresswoman Diana DeGette; Congressman Joe Neguse; Congressman
25 Scott Tipton; Congressman Ken Buck; Congressman Doug Lamborn;
26 Congressman Jason Crow; Congressman Ed Perlmutter; Jim Bridenstine,
27 NASA Administrator; James W. Morhard, NASA Deputy Administrator;
28 Steve Dickson, Federal Aviation Administration Administrator; Governor
29 Jared Polis; Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera; Major General
30 Michael A. Loh, The Adjutant General, Colorado National Guard; Wayne
31 R. Monteith, Associate Administrator for Commercial Space
32 Transportation at the Federal Aviation Administration; General John W.
33 "Jay" Raymond, Air Force Space Commander; Colonel Jacob Middleton,
34 USAF, Commander Aerospace Data Facility-Colorado; Betty Sapp,
35 Director, National Reconnaissance Office; Ross Garelick Bell, Executive
36 Director, Aerospace States Association; Thomas E. Zelibor, Chief
37 Executive Officer, Space Foundation; Dr. Ronald Segal, Co-chair,

1 Colorado Space Coalition; Michael Gass, Co-chair, Colorado Space
2 Coalition; and Stacey DeFore, Chair, Colorado Citizens Space
3 Exploration.