

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 21-001**

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

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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 the acting provisional Space Command  
8     Base and it will remain the provisional base until 2023. Colorado is also  
9     the center for United States military space operations and strategy.  
10    According to the Colorado Space Coalition (CSC), the state's military  
11    commands are the primary customers for space-based research,  
12    development, acquisitions, and operations, representing nearly 90 percent  
13    of space-related expenditure by the military. Moving the United States

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.*

1 Space Command (USSPACECOM) to Huntsville, Alabama, will be  
2 incredibly disruptive to the National Defense Strategy. In addition, it will  
3 cause a major upheaval in existing infrastructure and jobs in the state,  
4 which will result in higher costs and less efficient outcomes for the  
5 United States military; and

6 WHEREAS, Colorado is strategically located at the center of our  
7 national and space defense. We are the home to five key strategic military  
8 commands: North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD),  
9 United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), United States  
10 Strategic Command's Joint Functional Component Command for Space  
11 (JFCC Space) Missile Warning Center, the United States Air Force Space  
12 Command, and the United States Army Space and Missile Defense  
13 Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; and five military  
14 installations, including United States Air Force bases Buckley, Cheyenne  
15 Mountain, Peterson, and Schriever, as well as Fort Carson Army Base;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, The 460th Space Wing at Buckley Air Force Base  
18 provides operational command and control of three constellations to  
19 space-based infrared missile warning systems, has been defending  
20 America continuously since 1970, and is a critical part of global defense  
21 and national security; and

22 WHEREAS, Colorado leads the charge in bringing current and  
23 future global positioning system (GPS) assets to life, a service provided  
24 free to the world by Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs.  
25 From the operation of GPS satellites by Schriever Air Force Base to GPS  
26 III, the most powerful GPS satellite to date - being designed and built by  
27 Lockheed Martin and launched by United Launch Alliance with Raytheon  
28 developing the command and control capabilities, and with companies  
29 such as Boeing, Harris Corporation, Braxton Technologies, and Infinity  
30 Systems Engineering also supporting GPS development and operations  
31 from locations in Colorado, GPS technologies enable an integral part of  
32 our global economy to have an incalculable impact that has improved the  
33 everyday lives of billions of people around the world; and

34 WHEREAS, Colorado's aerospace industry is home to a broad  
35 range of companies that create products and systems for commercial,  
36 military, and civil space applications, such as spacecraft, launch vehicles,  
37 satellites, command and control software, sensors, and navigation  
38 operations. These companies include Ball Aerospace, Boeing,

1 DigitalGlobe, Harris Corporation, Lockheed Martin Space Systems,  
2 Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, Sierra Nevada Corporation, Teledyne  
3 Brown Engineering, and United Launch Alliance, which make up a large  
4 portion of the aerospace sector; and

5 WHEREAS, Colorado has an existing educated workforce, ranked  
6 second in the nation with residents with a bachelor's degree or higher, and  
7 a pipeline of higher education institutions to sustain future growth. We  
8 are home to the United States Air Force Academy and many colleges and  
9 universities, including the University of Colorado Boulder and the  
10 University of Colorado Colorado Springs, Colorado School of Mines,  
11 Colorado State University, Metropolitan State University of Denver,  
12 University of Denver, Colorado Mesa University, and Fort Lewis  
13 College. Altogether, they provide access to world-class aerospace-related  
14 degrees and offer aerospace companies one of the country's most  
15 educated workforces; and

16 WHEREAS, Colorado is home to some amazing research  
17 institutions. These institutions include the prestigious Laboratory for  
18 Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) at the University of Colorado  
19 Boulder. It began in 1948, a decade before NASA, and is the world's only  
20 research institute to have sent instruments to all eight planets and to Pluto,  
21 combining all aspects of space exploration through science, engineering,  
22 mission operations, and scientific data analysis; and

23 WHEREAS, Colorado is also home to the National Oceanic and  
24 Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Space Weather Prediction Center,  
25 a world-leading center of predictions for the solar and near-Earth space  
26 environment and the nation's official source of watches, warnings, and  
27 alerts of incoming solar storms, using satellite observations to protect and  
28 save lives and property; and

29 WHEREAS, Various organizations are key to Colorado's  
30 prominence in aerospace, such as the Colorado Space Coalition, a group  
31 of industry stakeholders working to make Colorado a center of excellence  
32 for aerospace; the Colorado Space Business Roundtable, working to bring  
33 together aerospace stakeholders from the industry, government, and  
34 academia for roundtable discussions and business development and to  
35 encourage grassroots citizen participation in aerospace issues; the  
36 Colorado chapter of Citizens for Space Exploration, whose mission is to  
37 promote better understanding of aerospace and its importance in our  
38 economy and daily lives, as well as to promote the importance of human

1 space exploration; Manufacturer's Edge, a statewide manufacturing  
2 assistance center that encourages the strength and competitiveness of  
3 Colorado manufacturers by providing on-site technical assistance through  
4 coaching, training, and consulting, by providing collaboration-focused  
5 industry programs, and by leveraging government, university, and  
6 economic development partnerships; and the Space Foundation, founded  
7 in 1983, with its world headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado,  
8 which holds an annual Space Symposium, bringing together civil,  
9 commercial, and national security space leaders from around the world to  
10 discuss, address, and plan for the future of space; and

11 WHEREAS, For the aforementioned reasons, it is in the best  
12 interests of the American taxpayer to keep USSPACECOM in the state  
13 because Colorado is already fulfilling the mission of the USSPACECOM;  
14 because Colorado Springs has in place the community infrastructure  
15 capacity and community support to champion an expanding mission;  
16 because the move will cost the United States billions of dollars to relocate  
17 the facility; and because the move would severely disrupt the Colorado  
18 aerospace industry, which has grown to support the mission; now,  
19 therefore,

20 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-third General*  
21 *Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives*  
22 *concurring herein:*

23 That we, the members of the General Assembly:

24 (1) Recognizing Colorado's unique blend of military installations  
25 and major commands, private aerospace companies, academic and  
26 research institutions, and government entities, and the valuable synergies  
27 this ecosystem produces, strongly urge the Department of Defense and the  
28 incoming Biden-Harris administration to reevaluate the merits of this  
29 irresponsible decision and should rightly conclude that it is the correct  
30 decision to keep the existing United States Space Command in Colorado;

31 (2) Furthermore, strongly urge the Department of Defense and the  
32 incoming presidential administration to permanently base the United  
33 States Space Command (USSPACECOM) in Colorado, recognizing that  
34 Colorado provides the existing command structure, base infrastructure,  
35 and communications platforms necessary to successfully host additional  
36 national security initiatives and ensure coordination of efforts without  
37 committing additional funds;

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

4           (4) Express our most sincere and deepest appreciation to our  
5 service members and civilian employees working in and supporting  
6 military and civilian aerospace companies, military installations, and civil  
7 organizations in Colorado; and

8           (5) Hereby declare Colorado to be the prime location for the  
9 permanent headquarters for USSPACECOM.

10           *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Senate Memorial be  
11 sent to President-elect Joseph R. Biden, Jr.; Vice President-elect Kamala  
12 Harris; Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi; Congressman Kevin McCarthy;  
13 Senator Chuck Schumer; Senator Mitch McConnell; Senator Michael  
14 Bennet; Senator John Hickenlooper; Congresswoman Diana DeGette;  
15 Congresswoman Lauren Boebert; Congressman Jason Crow;  
16 Congressman Joe Neguse; Congressman Ken Buck; Congressman Doug  
17 Lamborn; Congressman Ed Perlmutter; Jim Bridenstine, NASA  
18 Administrator; James W. Morhard, NASA Deputy Administrator; Steve  
19 Dickson, Federal Aviation Administration Administrator; Governor  
20 Jarred Pholis; Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera; Brig. Gen. Laura  
21 Clellan, The Adjutant General, Colorado National Guard; Wayne R.  
22 Monteith, Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation  
23 at the Federal Aviation Administration; General John W. "Jay" Raymond,  
24 Air Force Space Commander; Colonel Jacob Middleton, USAF,  
25 Commander Aerospace Data Facility-Colorado; Dr. Christopher Scolese,  
26 Director, National Reconnaissance Office; Ross Garelick Bell, Executive  
27 Director, Aerospace States Association; Thomas E. Zelibor, Chief  
28 Executive Officer, Space Foundation; Dr. Ronald Segal, Co-chair,  
29 Colorado Space Coalition; Michael Gass, Co-chair, Colorado Space  
30 Coalition; and Stacey DeFore, Chair, Colorado Citizens Space  
31 Exploration.