



Statement from Ascend Brevard, Inc.'s Space Council in Support of the NASA Transition Authorization Act of 2025 and Continued Investment in America's Space Leadership

The Space Council of Ascend Brevard, Inc., the 501(c)(3) foundation of Accelerate Brevard, commends the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for advancing key provisions of the NASA Transition Authorization Act of 2025 as part of the Senate reconciliation package. This legislation provides much-needed continuity and investment for critical NASA initiatives, including the Artemis program, the International Space Station, and future exploration of Mars.

These efforts are essential to preserving American leadership in low Earth orbit, cislunar space, and beyond. As other nations continue to advance their space capabilities, it is imperative that the United States not fall behind. The inclusion of funding for critical infrastructure and exploration technologies in this package ensures that both national priorities and commercial innovation continue to thrive.

As part of a national coalition, Citizens for Space Exploration, over 100 advocates recently engaged with 273 Congressional offices to express support for these investments. Our united message was clear: sustained support for NASA and its missions is vital to America's future in space.

Kennedy Space Center, which resides in Ascend Brevard's service area, stands as the world's premier multi-user spaceport, home to nearly 100 private-sector partners and more than 240 partnership agreements. The presence of commercial companies at Kennedy is larger than ever before, signaling a new era of public-private collaboration in space. Since 2017, employment by commercial launch providers at Kennedy has surged by over 100%, now generating nearly 3,000 jobs with NASA support. This is in addition to more than 2,100 NASA civil servants and nearly 20,000 contractors statewide.

Kennedy is not only NASA's main launch site—it also houses cutting-edge facilities that develop the technologies and systems needed for sustainable exploration of the Moon, Mars, and beyond. The center continues to push the boundaries of science while acting as the economic heartbeat of Florida's Space Coast. In Florida alone, the space industry supports 26,693 jobs and contributes \$9.36 billion in economic output. Every 10 NASA jobs in Florida support nearly 14 additional jobs in the state, and for every \$1 spent by Kennedy, \$1.88 is generated for Florida's economy. These programs not only drive economic growth but also inspire scientific and technological advancements that benefit the entire nation.

Ascend Brevard's Space Council thanks the Committee for its commitment to American space preeminence and urges Congress to ensure that this legislation moves forward. With strong bipartisan support and continued leadership from the Administration, the United States will remain the first to return to the Moon—and ultimately, the first to plant a flag on Mars.

We respectfully ask our elected officials to give full consideration to this critical legislation and to continue investing in the bold future of American space exploration.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Lane

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Lane", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the left.

President & CEO
Accelerate Brevard: Chamber of Innovation