

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
 urging Congress to add spaceports as a qualified tax-
 exempt category of private activity bonds.

WHEREAS, commercial investment in space and space
 transportation is driving the requirements for spaceport sites,
 operating environments, and infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, this state has acted decisively to integrate space
 transportation into the fabric of its statewide strategic
 intermodal system, and

WHEREAS, in 1999, state leaders made a landmark decision to
 designate space as an official mode of transportation and
 spaceports as the associated transportation facilities, which
 gave space standing within the Department of Transportation
 similar to that of other long-established modes of
 transportation such as airports and docks and wharfs, and

WHEREAS, space is not simply a program, it is a collection
 of high-value destinations for freight and people, and these
 destinations require safe, reliable, and sustainable
 transportation operating on market-driven schedules, and

WHEREAS, in order for this state to become the planet's
 premiere transportation hub for global space commerce; to
 facilitate the logistics and transport of commodities,
 materials, human crew, and robotic systems to operate facilities

26 | in various orbits, at earth-lunar waypoints, and on the Moon;
 27 | and to become the primary port of entry into earth's marketplace
 28 | for products from space, spaceports should qualify as private
 29 | activity bonds financing-exempt facilities under the Internal
 30 | Revenue Code, and

31 | WHEREAS, this qualification will encourage more investment
 32 | in aerospace infrastructure, ensuring that this state remains at
 33 | the forefront of the space economy, and

34 | WHEREAS, in the face of growing competition from China and
 35 | others, the aggressive development of infrastructure in Florida,
 36 | the dominant state in the commercial space economy, is key to
 37 | maintaining the United States' leadership in space, and

38 | WHEREAS, currently, certain parts of operations at airports
 39 | and docks and wharfs qualify for tax-exempt financing, NOW,
 40 | THEREFORE,

41 |

42 | Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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44 | That the Congress of the United States is urged to add
 45 | spaceports as a qualified tax-exempt category of private
 46 | activity bonds.

47 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State dispatch
 48 | copies of this memorial to the President of the United States,
 49 | the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
 50 | United States House of Representatives, and each member of the

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51 | Florida delegation to the United States Congress.