



**Representative Thomas F. Patton**

H.C.R. 8 – Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee

Sponsor Testimony

November 20, 2024

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Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Wilson, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Committee, thank you for allowing my joint sponsor, Representative Lampton, and I the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 8. This resolution would urge the federal government to name Ohio as the permanent location for the U.S. Space Command headquarters. With a new federal administration taking over in January, we are eager to renew our bid for this prestigious honor.

As we all know, Ohio's aviation and aerospace history is extremely rich. Ohio is proud to be known as the "birthplace of aviation," after Ohio-born Orville and Wilbur Wright. Ohio is also home to numerous renowned astronauts, including Judith Resnik, John Glenn, and Neil Armstrong.

I am proud to say that District 17, which I represent, houses the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, which our federal government already uses to research and develop new technology and further our progress in space exploration. I am also proud to say that we in the Ohio Legislature approved \$1.8 million in the Capital Budget for the Blue Abyss space and deep-sea research and state-of-the-art testing center in Brook Park. This further demonstrates our state's commitment to investing in aerospace research and training.

Chairman Johnson and members of the Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of House Concurrent Resolution 8. I welcome any questions at this time.