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April 29, 2025

Chair Hall, Vice Chair Ferguson, Ranking Member Humphrey, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Resolution 60. My name is Michael Deemer, and I am the President & CEO of Downtown Cleveland, Inc (DCI).

DCI is a nonprofit organization that attracts talent, jobs, residents, and investment to the city's core. As the only organization focused solely on strengthening and building the heart of Cleveland itself, we envision Downtown Cleveland as a vibrant city center that is welcoming for business. We work from sidewalk to skyline and everything in between, leading efforts to enhance downtown's environment, economy, and experience.

We believe that Cleveland is a prime location for NASA's new headquarters, as it is currently home to the NASA Glenn Research Center, soon-to-be-home to Blue Abyss, and home to our Great Lakes Science Center situated directly on our lakefront. Access to these facilities would all be within a 15-minute drive, should NASA relocate to downtown Cleveland.

Cleveland offers a significantly lower cost of living and operating expenses than Washington, DC., and it is in strategic alignment with broader federal efforts to reinvigorate regions outside of the Beltway.

There is a valuable workforce to tap into with several great institutions nearby, including Cleveland State, Case Western Reserve University, John Carroll University, and Baldwin Wallace University. Additionally, given that very few NASA Headquarters employees work in-office, consolidating operations near an existing NASA field center would streamline agency functions.

With over \$1.05 billion in investment already underway in downtown alone, we believe Cleveland is ripe for opportunity and has the workforce, amenities, and existing resources that NASA needs to execute their agency duties most efficiently.

We respectfully urge the committee's passage of this resolution to name Cleveland as the new home for the NASA headquarters. Once again, thank you to the members of this committee. We appreciate your time and consideration.

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Michael Deemer
President & CEO

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