



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ohio Chamber of Commerce Proponent Testimony – Senate Resolution 68 April 1, 2025

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and members of the Senate General Government Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Resolution 68 (SR 68). My name is Matt MacLaren and I am the Director of Travel and Tourism Policy for the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce represents over 8,000 businesses across Ohio. We support the effort championed by Senator Jon Husted and Congressman Max Miller to relocate NASA Headquarters from the D.C. Beltway to the Buckeye State – the heart of the American Midwest and the birthplace of aviation. Ohio would be a great location for the NASA headquarters.

Attached is a letter we have sent to Vice President Vance and Administrator Designate Isaacman encouraging the relocation of NASA headquarters to Ohio. This letter lists several reasons Ohio would be a great location for NASA HQ. Those reasons include Ohio's history in aviation and aerospace, over 170 individual NASA suppliers residing in Ohio, Ohio's strategically vital location, Ohio's critical defense infrastructure including the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) in Dayton, and more.

Ohio has the tools, the workforce, and the wherewithal to advance NASA's core mission and long-term objectives. The Ohio Chamber of Commerce supports SR 68, and we thank Senator Roegner for championing this proposal. It is for these reasons that Ohio is the natural landing place for NASA HQ, and makes support for this resolution an easy decision.

March 17, 2025

The Honorable J.D. Vance
Vice President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Jared Isaacman
Administrator Designate
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
300 Hidden Figures Way, SW
Washington, DC 20546

Re: Achieving President Trump's Agenda for Space Dominance & Government Cost Efficiency by Relocating NASA Headquarters from Washington, D.C. to the State of Ohio

Dear Vice President Vance and Administrator Designate Isaacman,

As civic and business leaders from across the State of Ohio, we write in strong support of the bipartisan effort championed by Senator Jon Husted and Congressman Max Miller to relocate NASA Headquarters from the D.C. Beltway to the **Buckeye State – the heart of the American Midwest & the birthplace of aviation**. Whether it be the unyielding ingenuity of the Wright Brothers, the adventurous courage of Neil Armstrong, or the bold sacrifice of John Glenn – for whom Cleveland's NASA Glenn Research Center is dedicated – Ohio's long history of aerospace and aviation breakthroughs is just as bright as our state's future in space exploration & discovery.

As the largest supplier to Boeing & Airbus – and with over 170 individual NASA suppliers residing in-state – Ohio is already well-integrated in the aerospace manufacturing pipeline and offers limitless opportunities to streamline & economize the nation's mission-critical development of "Made in America" space exploration products. In addition to serving as **the beating heart of America's aerospace corridor**, Ohio proves vastly more competitive than other potential relocation sites when comparing cost-of-living, operational expenses, and labor costs.

Ohio sits in a strategically vital location at the intersection of our great nation with its close proximity to critical national defense installations, an array of cutting-edge research laboratories, a wide range of highly distinguished science & engineering programs, a statewide network of global business leaders in aerospace innovation, and is home to the Midwest Microelectronics Consortium (MMEC) dedicated to the acceleration of microelectronics technologies and the semiconductor revolution.

As previously mentioned, Cleveland is proud to be the home of NASA's Glenn Research Center – one of the nation's leading innovators in aeronautics, nuclear power, and space technology. The technology being developed at NASA Glenn today will be responsible for harnessing the abundance of power required to propel American astronauts far beyond the Moon to Mars. **If Mars is our nation's unifying goal, Ohio is where that journey begins.**

Additionally, it is important to consider the critical defense infrastructure throughout Ohio that supports much of the work NASA is engaged in. Of great importance is the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) in Dayton, Ohio. AFRL is the primary scientific

research and development center for the Department of the Air Force, playing an integral role in the discovery, development, and integration of warfighting technologies for our air, space, and cyberspace forces. WPAFB also houses the National Air & Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) and the National Space Intelligence Center (NSIC), known as “Delta 18” – DoD’s primary source for space intelligence and the Space Force’s service intelligence center to “outwit, outreach, and win in the space domain.”

It is often said that “the road to the Moon and Mars runs straight through Ohio.” As community leaders from across our great state, we are confident that Ohio is prepared to meet this moment. Ohio has the tools, the workforce, and the wherewithal to advance NASA’s core mission and long-term objectives. We stand ready to assist President Trump and his Cabinet in pursuing America’s mission to the next frontier. To the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

Sincerely,



Cc: Hon. Janet Petro, Acting Administrator, NASA