Resolution

WHEREAS, this is a defining moment in our country's history - a time for a genuine commitment to remain a LEADER in space through a bold declaration of a defined purpose, identified destination, and a clear timeframe; and

WHEREAS, the ability to adequately guarantee the defense of this nation has in the past relied upon having the best Army, Navy, and Air Force; the future clearly dictates the absolute necessity of being in control of Space, or otherwise ceding our destiny and that of our children, to nations like Russia and China; and

WHEREAS, the importance of the United States remaining a LEADER in space transcends national pride in prior achievements to a call for space exploration that pushes the envelope in new innovations, new products, and new industries that will secure our place as an economic superpower in this global, borderless, and knowledge-based economy; and

WHEREAS, dependence upon a foreign nation such as Russia for transport of American astronauts and payloads is neither reliable, economical, nor politically astute; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida has played a key role in our national space program from its inception as the premier launch site with a $4.1 billion state-wide economic output in 2008 alone, including $103 million in state and local taxes; and a $43.9 billion statewide aerospace federal, state and industry economic impact; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida has enthusiastically embraced and demonstated its commitment to the space program's continued presence in Florida with a total $8 billion investment in infrastructure and a current Governor's budget which proposes $32.6 million for space; and

WHEREAS, 100,000 jobs statewide in all 67 counties have been associated with the presence of the aerospace/space program in the state of Florida making it one of the larger employers in the state; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida is privileged to share the experience of space exploration and technology with thousands of visitors who contribute $90 million annually to the economy when they visit the "Sunshine State" to experience the pride and excitement of participation in this vital aspect of our nation's space program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, does hereby request that the Florida Legislative Delegation on behalf of all Floridians does actively and aggressively seek legislative support for:

- *Assurance that the United States remains the LEADER in space with a strong declaration by the Administration of a goal, a destination, and a time frame for Human Space flight*

- *Assurance that the United States is the primary provider for U. S. human space flight to the International Space Station and our national laboratory, with Russia in a secondary - not primary - role through the continuous ability to launch American astronauts and payloads on U.S.- built heavy- lift vehicles, which includes the extension of Space Shuttle flights until new vehicles are ready to fly*

- *Assurance that the United States remains competitive on the international level as an economic superpower, leading the world in research and technology that improves life for all mankind by creating an environment that encourages Research and Development and ensures the full utilization of our national laboratory aboard the International Space Station*

- *Assurance that the United States ensures its national security by retaining its military superiority, which reaches to the farthest corners of the universe and depends in part upon the support of satellites through the continuous use of U.S.-built vehicles without reliance upon foreign countries*

- **Assurance that the United States remains the leader in space exploration with the commitment to fund construction of Florida's 21st century launch facilities, and the ability to secure partnerships with low earth orbit commercial operations by providing the necessary funds to provide responsive and supportive functions**

- **Assurance that the future workforce of the United States remains competitive in a global market, by providing support for world-class STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education for primary, secondary, and post-secondary students**

DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED, in regular session, this 9th day of March, A.D., 2010.

ATTEST:

Scott Ellis

Scott Ellis, Clerk

Mary M. Bolin

Mary Bolin, Chairman

As approved by the Board 3/9/10

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF BREVARD

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and current copy of Res # 10-041 witness my hand and official seal this 11 day of March 20 10

SCOTT ELLIS
Clerk Circuit Court
BY _____ D.C.