ALABAMA SPACE AUTHORITY

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE SELECTION OF THE REDSTONE REGION AS THE PREFERRED LOCATION FOR THE PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS OF US SPACE COMMAND**

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2021, the Secretary of the Air Force, on behalf of the Office of Secretary of Defense, selected Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama, as the preferred location for the U.S. Space Command Headquarters from among six installations across the country after down-selecting from 24 states; and

WHEREAS, the January 13, 2021, announcement was the culmination of a complex, time-consuming process, which included site visits and community meetings at the six finalist locations, as the United States Air Force selection team considered a wide range of key indicators related to the command's mission, examining workforce availability, costs, the presence of Department of Defense assets, and much more; and

WHEREAS, the United States Air Force explicitly commended Huntsville's Redstone Arsenal as the best choice for Space Command: "Huntsville compared favorably across more of these factors than any other community providing a large, qualified workforce, quality schools, superior infrastructure capacity, and low initial and recurring costs. Additionally, Redstone Arsenal offered a facility to support the headquarters, at no cost, while the permanent facility is being constructed"; and

WHEREAS, The Redstone Region already houses many organizations that are vital to US Space Command, has a significant presence from most major industry partners, has a highly educated workforce, offers exceptional cost and quality of living, and has a storied history of leading America’s defense and civil space programs from their earliest days; and

WHEREAS, it took a broad, inclusive team effort to recruit the U.S. Space Command Headquarters; this effort was led by Senator Richard Shelby and included the Redstone Regional Alliance, Governor Kay Ivey, Alabama Commerce Secretary Greg Canfield, Mayor Tommy Battle, Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth, the Alabama Military Stability Commission and Foundation, the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, the Alabama Space Authority, and numerous volunteers and leaders in government, business, education, and economic and workforce development professionals; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ALABAMA SPACE AUTHORITY That we recognize, affirm, and honor the United States Space Command and its new headquarters at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, and express our deepest appreciation to the United States Air Force for its excellent selection, and we express gratitude to the Alabama leaders who worked tirelessly towards this successful decision.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, That we strongly dispute any assertion that Alabama is anything less than the optimal location for the United States Space Command Headquarters, and similarly rebuke any allegations that Alabama was chosen for any reason other than its unique suitability to host this critical mission, and we applaud the United States Air Force selection of Redstone Arsenal above the other potential, but far less suitable, sites.

Dated this 16th Day of February, 2021

 ALABAMA SPACE AUTHORITY

BY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Senator Steve Livingston

 Its: Chairman

Attest:

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Senator Tom Whatley

 Its: Vice-Chairman