



September 20, 2021

Chairman Don Beyer
Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Brian Babin
Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
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Dear Chairman Beyer and Ranking Member Babin,

Our combined organizations represent hundreds of U.S. companies employing hundreds of thousands of Americans across the space sector, from large manufacturers and integrators to the small- and medium-sized businesses at the heart of the aerospace supply chain. Our members have been critical contributors to the International Space Station (ISS) since its inception and provide manufacturing, logistics, transportation, and other support necessary for its continued operation.

As the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics considers the future of the ISS, AIA and CSF support extending ISS operations to 2030 as well as full authorization and funding of NASA's Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) request for commercial low Earth orbit (LEO) development.

AIA and CSF support:

- Maintaining a continuous U.S. human presence in space by extending ISS operations to 2030; extending associated cargo and crew transportation programs; and, continuing microgravity research programs to ensure human space exploration and scientific research efforts are maximized.
- Full authorization and funding of NASA's FY22 request for commercial LEO development to spur U.S. private industry activity in LEO, including commercial use of the ISS and future commercial LEO destinations, as NASA expands U.S. human presence beyond LEO.

Congress has a long history of providing bipartisan, bicameral support for the continuation of the ISS. Its extension, coupled with support for commercial LEO development programs, will further the nation's global space leadership, avoid any gaps in U.S. LEO presence, and enable the continued growth of the U.S. space industry in LEO and beyond.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Aerospace Industries Association
Commercial Spaceflight Federation