

1 HB176
2 180883-2
3 By Representatives Sanderford, Sessions, Carns, Patterson,
4 Collins, Shiver, Chesteen, Hall, Rich, Whorton (R), Pettus,
5 Ledbetter, Farley, Butler and Daniels
6 RFD: Technology and Research
7 First Read: 09-FEB-17

1 Commerce, the Director of the Alabama Department of Economic
2 and Community Affairs (ADECA), the Director of the Department
3 of Transportation (ALDOT), and six other members to be
4 selected from the aerospace, aviation, and related industries,
5 or persons having knowledge or interest in space technology,
6 according to the following manner: One member appointed by the
7 Governor, one member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, two
8 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives, and two members appointed by the President
10 Pro Tempore of the Senate.

11 Section 3. The authority shall be created as an
12 office in the Alabama Department of Economic and Community
13 Affairs (ADECA). ADECA shall provide for the initial support
14 needed to apply for grant funding. Upon receipt of grant
15 funding, ADECA shall provide administrative support for the
16 authority.

17 Section 4. The authority shall have the following
18 duties:

19 (1) Encourage the education and training of
20 aerospace professionals to pioneer the frontier of space and
21 to develop new methods and technologies for the exploration of
22 space.

23 (2) Promote new space exploration, space tourism,
24 and spaceport technologies across a wide spectrum of
25 corporate, academic, public, and private innovation
26 infrastructures.

1 (3) Sponsor aerospace conferences and business
2 roundtables to enable networking among key aerospace leaders
3 and public officials.

4 (4) Encourage the leveraging of venture capital and
5 seed public-private partnerships to promote entrepreneurship
6 and expand space enterprise.

7 (5) Propose business initiatives, tax credits, small
8 business incubator programs, and other initiatives to
9 stimulate economic development and innovation within the
10 aerospace and space systems communities.

11 ~~(6) Promote adequate roads, communications, Internet~~
12 ~~access, and leverage unique geographical assets such as~~
13 ~~location, elevation, landforms, and climate to develop~~
14 ~~terrestrial analog test facilities.~~

15 ~~(7)~~ (6) Perform a study on the feasibility of
16 securing approval for the State of Alabama to have a federally
17 licensed spaceport.

18 ~~(8) Identify, acquire, and manage the development of~~
19 ~~public lands for space related activities including, if found~~
20 ~~to be feasible, space launch.~~

21 ~~(9)~~ (7) Encourage space research and education
22 centers to support these programs and facilitate technology
23 transfer.

24 ~~(10)~~ (8) Work with the Department of Tourism, the
25 Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission, and other public
26 agencies to communicate the multiple scientific, educational,
27 and commercial benefits of space exploration and the legacy of

1 Alabama's contributions to America's space program to the
2 public and to promote space tourism and training.

3 Section 5. For the purpose of accomplishing the
4 duties enumerated in Section 4, the authority shall have the
5 following powers:

6 (1) To borrow money for its corporate purposes and,
7 in evidence of such borrowing, to sell and issue bonds of the
8 authority and to refund any thereof by the issuance of
9 refunding bonds, or other debt instruments.

10 (2) To acquire by purchase, gift, ~~or any other~~
11 ~~lawful means~~ or gift any real, personal, or mixed property
12 necessary or convenient in connection with the purpose for
13 which the authority is formed and to hold title to such
14 property, together with all rights incidental to its estate in
15 such property.

16 ~~(3) To exercise the right allocated to the state to~~
17 ~~acquire property used or useful for the purpose for which the~~
18 ~~authority is formed as freely and completely as and in the~~
19 ~~same manner that the State of Alabama is empowered to exercise~~
20 ~~such rights.~~

21 ~~(4)~~ (3) To lease all or any part of the facilities
22 or property of the authority to any person and, from time to
23 time, fix, revise, charge, and collect rentals under such
24 leases.

25 Section 6. Nothing in this act should be construed
26 to limit the ability of municipalities ~~or counties,~~ counties,
27 or airport authorities incorporated or reincorporated pursuant

1 to Title 4, Code of Alabama 1975, from developing aerospace
2 and spaceport infrastructure and capabilities.

3 Section 7. ~~The enumeration of duties and powers~~
4 ~~shall not be construed to give any other public or private~~
5 ~~entity, department, or subdivision of the state, other than~~
6 ~~the Alabama Space Authority, the right to exercise the~~
7 ~~above-mentioned powers.~~

8 Section 8. ~~The authority may not be dissolved while~~
9 ~~it still holds outstanding bonds or other unpaid indebtedness.~~

10 Section 9. Membership of the authority shall serve
11 without compensation but shall be reimbursed for per diem and
12 travel expenses at the same rate and under the same
13 circumstances as are payable by law to state employees for
14 each day they attend business of the authority.

15 Per diem and travel expenses for members who are
16 state officers or employees shall be paid from the budget of
17 the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

18 Section 10. This act shall become effective
19 immediately following its passage and approval by the
20 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-
ferred to the House of Representa-
tives committee on Technology and
Research..... 09-FEB-17

Read for the second time and placed
on the calendar 1 amendment 16-FEB-17

Read for the third time and passed
as amended..... 02-MAY-17

Yeas 99, Nays 0, Abstains 0

Jeff Woodard
Clerk