



VIRGINIA COMMERCIAL SPACE FLIGHT AUTHORITY

April 16, 2018

Dear Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Johnson, Chairman Babin and Ranking Member Bera:

I write to thank you for the inclusion of language in your Manager's Amendment to continue authorization of the 21st Century Launch Complex program, which provides vital infrastructure support for NASA's launch complexes and ranges that support cargo resupply missions to the International Space Station (ISS), including at Wallops Flight Facility. We appreciate the work you and your staff have done to help support this reauthorization and it will ensure that NASA's launch ranges are prepared to meet the growing demands of our space program in the years ahead.

As you may know, state spaceports -- like the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) at Wallops -- have invested hundreds of millions of dollars at Federal launch sites to support NASA missions and provide new low-cost capabilities for NASA, Defense and commercial users, while also improving resiliency and responsiveness. The language included in this provision also urges NASA to fully leverage these state investments and partner with state spaceports to meet infrastructure demands to support ISS and other missions.

It is helpful to have NASA regularly reauthorized to ensure that policy provisions continue to keep pace with the important work going on at launch sites and centers. I applaud your efforts to advance a reauthorization bill for FY 2018 and FY 2019 and appreciate the work of your staff and the other Members on your committee to support this process.

Finally, I invite you and your entire committee to join us for our next launch (tentatively scheduled for late May) of Orbital ATK's Antares rocket and Cygnus spacecraft to ISS. We would be honored to host you and show you how our partnership with NASA has and continues to support our nation's space program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dale K. Nash".

Dale K. Nash
CEO and Executive Director
Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority
Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport