



Students for the Exploration and Development of Space

May 12, 2015

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives  
2421 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lamar Smith  
Chairman of the House Committee on Science,  
Space, and Technology  
2409 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steven Palazzo  
Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Space and  
Aeronautics  
331 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McCarthy,

We are writing on behalf of the Students for the Exploration and Development of Space, USA (SEDS-USA), to express our members' support for the Spurring Private Aerospace Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship Act of 2015. This bill would strengthen the growing commercial space industry and, in the long run, contribute to achieving a spacefaring civilization overall. Our organization views achieving a spacefaring civilization as a critical milestone for the human race. The mission of SEDS is to promote the exploration and development of space, and this bill would help do just that.

The bill is a step to secure American technological dominance of space for decades to come. Today's students are also rapidly seeking work related to innovative commercial ventures, which will be heavily bolstered by the extensions of the industry "learning period" into the year 2023.

Time is a valuable resource in any venture, and giving more time to the developing commercial space industry will pay off immensely. We are excited to see the future of space exploration as it unfolds through both government and private efforts in low-Earth orbit, and beyond. We are grateful for the House's support of commercial spaceflight companies that are working hard to build the foundation for the future of space exploration.

We applaud the steps you've taken with this bill to support an innovative and growing industry, and inspire America's next generation of scientists and engineers.

Ad Astra,

*On behalf of SEDS-USA:*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Newman".

Andrew Newman  
SEDS-USA, Board Member-at-Large

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Conafay".

John Conafay  
SEDS-USA, Executive Director