

RALPH LEE ABRAHAM, M.D.
5TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1805

417 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-8490

426 DESIARD STREET
MONROE, LA 71201
(318) 322-3500
(318) 322-3577 FAX

2003 MACARTHUR DRIVE, BUILDING 5
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301
(318) 445-0818
(318) 445-3776 FAX

5934 COMMERCE STREET
ST. FRANCISVILLE, LA 70775
(225) 245-1971 CELL
(985) 516-5858 CELL

www.abraham.house.gov

March 12, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

I write today to commend you on advancing the United States Space Command with your latest budget proposal, and to ask that you consider Louisiana for the headquarters of this new military force.

The United States has always been the global leader in space exploration. Space Command is the next logical step forward in our nation's development as we seek ways to deter aggression and maintain peace in the space arena.

Louisiana is an ideal location for the future headquarters of Space Command as our state already has strong existing relationships with both the military and NASA.

Initial plans for the organization of Space Command call for close collaboration with the Air Force. Louisiana is proud to house Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City. Space Command would fit perfectly within AFGSC's mission of innovation, strategic deterrence and global strike and combat support.

In addition to Barksdale, Louisiana is also home to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk and the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, which provides defense support in the Gulf Region. The military accounts for a nearly \$8 billion economic impact in our state, and Louisiana's people would welcome further investment with open arms as we are honored to support our men and women in uniform.

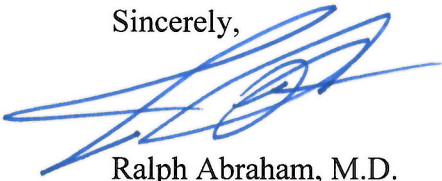
Further, Louisiana's Michoud Assembly Facility has built large vehicles and components for our nation's space program throughout the program's 50-year history, dating back to the Apollo

Program, the Shuttle and today's Space Launch System. Contractors such as Boeing, Lockheed Martin, and multiple other federal partners already do business with the facility, and I'm sure the facility would welcome involvement in the next phase in United States' space development.

Louisiana is also home to two space grant universities, Louisiana State University and Louisiana Tech University, which can provide research and manpower support opportunities for Space Command.

Should you select Louisiana as the headquarters for Space Command, you can rest assured that you will have picked a state that is open for investment and one that has unique qualities ideally suited to support Space Command's growth and development. I look forward to working with you on seeing Space Command to the finish line as we take the next step in America's rich and vibrant history of space exploration and development.

Sincerely,



Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress

RA/ca

CC: Dr. Heather A. Wilson, Secretary, U.S. Air Force