



## **Personal Spaceflight Federation Supports Passage of NASA Authorization Act of 2008**

*Bill contains key provisions recognizing importance of commercial human spaceflight*

**Washington, DC (June 9, 2008)** – The Personal Spaceflight Federation today urged the House of Representatives to quickly pass H.R. 6063, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008, in a statement by President Bretton Alexander:

“Developed on a bipartisan basis by the House Committee on Science and Technology, this legislation will help maintain U.S. leadership in space exploration, science, technology, and economic development. In particular, the bill continues the Committee’s long tradition of supporting a role for commercial space goods and services, including meeting the challenge of NASA’s minimum five-year ‘gap’ in domestic human spaceflight capabilities.

“The bill authorizes an increase of \$1.6 billion over the President’s FY2009 request, providing additional funding for several key NASA programs. The bill also authorizes additional funding for NASA’s baseline Project Constellation so it can proceed at full speed while also directing the agency to pursue multiple Commercial Orbital Transportation Services (COTS) crewed vehicle agreements with U.S. commercial providers. Together, this multi-pronged approach will assure not just domestic access to the International Space Station but affordable access to LEO through the commercial marketplace for years to come, thus enabling NASA’s new agenda of exploring beyond Low Earth Orbit.

“In addition, the bill calls for an 11% increase in suborbital science programs, which will play a key role in inspiring the next generation of young scientists and engineers, especially as these programs begin to make use of new emerging commercial suborbital vehicles in future years. Finally, the bill strongly encourages the use of innovation prizes by NASA.”

**About the Personal Spaceflight Federation (PSF)** – The mission of the Personal Spaceflight Federation is to promote the development of commercial human spaceflight, pursue ever higher levels of safety, and share best practices and expertise throughout the industry. PSF member organizations include commercial developers and operators of spaceships, spaceports, and orbital spaceflight facilities. The Federation is governed by a board of directors, composed of the member companies’ CEO-level officers and entrepreneurs. For more information please visit [www.personalspaceflight.org](http://www.personalspaceflight.org) or contact Executive Director John Gedmark at 202.349.1121.