

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
October 14-15, 2020
Virtual**

Resolution No. 26: Support For The United States Space Force

Origin: National Security Commission

Submitted by: National Security Commission

WHEREAS, Space is critical to the American way of life with our dependency on satellites for commerce, communications, power grids, air and ground transportation, emergency services, and national security; and

WHEREAS, Over 2,200 operational satellites are in orbit, with over 1,000 owned and operated by United States firms and the United States government agencies or military units, in support of a space-based economy of over \$415 billion; and

WHEREAS, Freedom of the seas was essential to the United States' economic and national security in previous centuries, so is space essential for our continued economic and national security in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Service personnel of all branches of the military are critically dependent on the services provided by our space assets with a typical Army brigade having over 2,000 pieces of equipment that rely on space assets to function; and

WHEREAS, Today's warfighter's battlefield superiority is dependent on our space assets in that those who control space controls the land, sea, and air battlefield environment; and

WHEREAS, China and Russia view space as a critical United States military and economic vulnerability and both are developing doctrine and weapon systems geared toward damaging or interfering with opposing force navigation, reconnaissance and communications satellites; and

WHEREAS, Virtually every United States president, since John F. Kennedy has called for the United States to occupy "a position of pre-eminence" in space, and has recognized the importance of space to our national defense; and

WHEREAS, On 1 September 1982 the Space Force was initially formed as Air Force Space Command within the Air Force "to avoid a space Pearl Harbor"; and

WHEREAS, The Congress and president formally created the U.S. Space Force as a separate military service on 20 December 2019, with the signing of the United States Space Force Act, part of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2020; and

WHEREAS, The cornerstone responsibilities of the United States Space Force are: preserve freedom of action, enable joint lethality and effectiveness, and provide independent options fed by the core competencies of space security, combat power projection, space mobility and logistics, information mobility, and space domain awareness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That The American Legion urges Congress to appropriately support the United States Space Force's commitment to attract, retain, and train quality people who will be molded into a force capable of flexibly responding to threats to America's national and economic security that will enhance readiness through its continued focus on total force integration and modernization programs that will maintain America's dominance in space well into the 21st century.