

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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HOMELAND SECURITY AND
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HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR
AND PENSIONS
AGRICULTURE
JOINT ECONOMIC

August 26, 2026

General Kenneth Wilsbach
Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330

Dear General Wilsbach:

I write to express my strong support for relocating Blue Horizons from Maxwell Air Force Base to Orlando, Florida. As the Air Force's premier forum for exploring transformational ideas and capabilities for the future force, Blue Horizons would benefit significantly from Orlando's unique defense, technology, and academic ecosystem.

Orlando is recognized as the Modeling, Simulation, and Training Capital of the World, supporting a \$7 billion modeling and simulation industry and the world's largest concentration of modeling, simulation, and training organizations. The Central Florida Research Park, adjacent to the University of Central Florida (UCF), brings together defense organizations from every military service alongside industry leaders and researchers in a collaborative environment designed to accelerate innovation and deliver new capabilities to the warfighter.

Through Team Orlando, military services, government agencies, industry leaders, and academic institutions work side-by-side to develop next-generation technologies and operational concepts. This concentration of expertise provides Blue Horizons with direct access to a robust network of innovators, defense technologists, and national security professionals.

Orlando's proximity to Patrick Space Force Base, Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, and three combatant commands headquartered in Florida provides Blue Horizons direct access to strategic leaders and mission partners across the joint force.

Just as importantly, UCF would be an invaluable partner. UCF is the nation's leading supplier of graduates to the aerospace and defense industry and is home to nationally recognized programs in modeling and simulation, artificial intelligence, digital engineering, and national security research. Its longstanding partnerships with the Department of Defense provide access to exceptional talent, cutting-edge research, and the innovative thinking necessary to address future challenges.

Relocating Blue Horizons to Orlando would place the Air Force's premier strategic innovation organization at the center of a globally recognized defense technology ecosystem and further strengthen its ability to develop the ideas and capabilities needed to ensure future air and space superiority.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued leadership of the United States Air Force.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Moody". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ashley Moody
U.S. Senator for Florida