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Press Release

New Coalition Urges State to Keep Aerospace Industry Strong, Honor its Commitment

SEATTLE – Elected, business, and community leaders from across Washington state today announced the formation of a new coalition, Aerospace Works for Washington (AWW), to keep the state a global leader in aerospace.

AWW’s key objective is to ensure aerospace continues to be a cornerstone of the state’s economy, including preserving the aerospace industry tax incentives that maintain Washington’s competitiveness.

In 2015, 346 large and small enterprises used the incentives, contributing to a total industry economic impact of over \$94 billion. Since the Legislature extended the incentives in 2013, one in four local aerospace and related industry businesses have used them, creating tens of thousands of jobs.

“The aerospace industry is a vital and enduring component of our state’s economy, employing and supporting over 252,000 Washingtonians,” said Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Maud Daudon. “AWW serves as a voice for the industry and the thousands of jobs it supports.”

She added, “Our focus in Washington must be to maintain and grow the aerospace industry as much as possible. It provides high-skill pathway jobs that support so many families in our state, and the competition for these jobs is fierce. Every state wants them. Working together, we can be poised to look ahead and make sure that this remains the center for aerospace in our country.”

“The aerospace industry is Auburn’s largest job creator,” said Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus. “The industry supports the robust tax base we need to pay for vital services in our city like social services and infrastructure. As a former aerospace industry employee and now a mayor that values the quality of life these jobs provide our city, I am proud to join AWW as an advocate for all who depend upon this robust industry.”

“Our industry understands how vital the aerospace industry and the jobs it creates are to hundreds of local businesses across the state,” said Washington Retail Association President & CEO, Jan Teague. “When aerospace thrives, retail establishments across Washington continue to succeed and generate even more local jobs.”

Learn more about the growing coalition by visiting www.aerospaceworksforwa.com. A list of AWW members is attached.

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Aerospace Works for Washington is a statewide coalition of elected, business and community leaders working to ensure Washington state remains a leader in aerospace. Our role is to advocate for Washington’s aerospace industry – now and into the future – in Olympia and across the state.

Aerospace Works for Washington Members:

Aerospace Futures Alliance
Alaska Airlines
Association of Washington Business
Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus
Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce
Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce
CONNECT Supply Chain
Economic Alliance of Snohomish County
Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County
Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County
Edmonds Chamber of Commerce
Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson
Grant County Economic Development Council
Greater Spokane Incorporated
Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce
Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce
Kent Chamber of Commerce
Kent Mayor Suzette Cooke
Kitsap Economic Development Alliance
Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce
Pioneer Human Services
Port of Everett
Puyallup Sumner Chamber of Commerce
Renton Chamber of Commerce
Renton Mayor Denis Law
Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Seattle Southside Chamber of Commerce
Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers
South Sound Chambers of Commerce Legislative Coalition
The Boeing Company
Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce
Tukwila Mayor Allan Ekberg
Washington Aerospace Partnership
Washington Hospitality Association
Washington Retail Association
Washington Roundtable
Yakima County Development Association