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Lt. GOVERNOR GARAMENDI ISSUES STATEMENT ON EXPORT CONTROLS

Unintended Consequences of U.S. Export Controls Brought to Light

Washington, DC-- California Lt. Governor John Garamendi issued a statement for the record that was read during the Aerospace States Association (ASA) Capitol Hill hearing on export controls in Washington, DC today. ASA called the hearing to bring attention to the unintended consequences of current U.S. export control policies and practices. Panelists representing industry, academia, government, and the media testified today to ASA delegates. ASA is a scientific and educational organization comprised of Lt. Governors and Governor-appointed delegates that promotes a state-based perspective in federal aerospace policy development.

“One of the challenges faced by California’s aerospace community and other high-technology sectors is the current U.S. export control regime,” Lt. Governor Garamendi’s statement reads. “While we must remain ever mindful of the national security concerns of exporting technology, unintended consequences of those policies can stifle innovation and impede the competitiveness of California and United States,” continues the statement.

ASA delegates were addressed by Congressman Donald Manzullo (R-IL). Panelists included the Honorable Marion Blakey, President and CEO of the Aerospace Industries Association; Colonel Peter Bunce, President and CEO of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association; David Logsdon, Executive Director of the Space Enterprise Council of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Professor Bob Twiggs, Stanford University; Professor Thomas Zurbuchen, University of Michigan; Professor Claude Canizares, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Joseph Rouge, Director of the Pentagon’s National Security Space Office; Matthew Borman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Controls; John Hall, Director of Export Controls for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Robert Kovac, Managing Director of the State Department’s Directorate for Defense Trade Controls; Tony Velocci, Editor-in-Chief of *Aviation Week & Space Technology*; and Lon Rains, Editor of *Space News*.

In November 2007, Congressman Brad Sherman (D-CA), Congressman Donald Manzullo (R-IL), Congressman Joe Crowley (D-NY), and Congressman Roy Blunt (R-MO) introduced the bi-partisan bill, H.R. 4246, the “Defense Trade Controls Performance Improvement Act of 2007” to Congress. In January 2008, President Bush signed a package of U.S. Export Control Reform Directives addressing some of the issues raised by industry. At the conclusion of the hearing, the ASA delegates passed a resolution encouraging members of Congress to take additional steps to streamline U.S. export control policies and practices.

“We are pleased that Washington appears serious in its attempts to address the unintended consequences emanating from the current implementation of U.S. export control policies practices. This has long been an issue of tantamount importance to our members, and I’m optimistic that relief is on its way,” declared Andrea Seastrand, Executive Director of the California Space Authority.

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California Space Authority is a nonprofit organization supporting California’s commercial, civil and national security space stakeholders. Governed by a statewide board of directors, CSA works closely with the State of California, industry, other government, education, workforce entities and academia to support space enterprise development and expansion statewide.