



NEWS: For Immediate Release

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**SATELLITE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION APPLAUDS CONGRESS FOR
PASSING LONG-TERM EXTENSION
OF COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH INDEMNIFICATION**

Washington, D.C., November 17, 2015 – The Satellite Industry Association (SIA) today applauded the passage of a bill by the House of Representatives that will extend the existing commercial space launch indemnification regime through 2025. The indemnification provision was included as a part of the Spurring Private Aerospace Competitiveness and Entrepreneurship (SPACE) Act of 2015. The Senate has already passed identical legislation, so the measure will now be sent to the White House for signature or veto.

“Extending the launch indemnification regime for a further 10 years ensures the continuation of a long-standing provision needed for the global competitiveness of U.S. launch services companies,” said Tom Stroup, President of SIA. “SIA applauds this action by Congress. It is an important step to maintaining U.S. innovation and leadership in satellite launch while aiding the broader domestic and global satellite industry.”

SIA has long supported extending commercial space launch indemnification regime, which offers government indemnification for any such damages in excess of the required private launch insurance limits. The regime has never been drawn upon, but allows U.S. commercial launch service providers to compete on a level playing field with foreign providers, all of which enjoy similar indemnification from 3rd party liability damage related to launch failures.

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About The Satellite Industry Association

SIA is a U.S.-based trade association providing representation of the leading satellite operators, service providers, manufacturers, launch services providers, and ground equipment suppliers. Since its creation twenty years ago, SIA has advocated on behalf of the U.S. satellite industry on policy, regulatory, and legislative issues affecting the satellite business. For more information, visit www.sia.org.

SIA Executive Members include: The Boeing Company; The DIRECTV Group; EchoStar Corporation; Intelsat S.A.; Iridium Communications Inc.; Kratos Defense & Security Solutions; LightSquared; Lockheed Martin Corporation; Northrop Grumman Corporation; SES Americom,

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Inc.; Space Exploration Technologies Corp.; SSL; and ViaSat, Inc. SIA Associate Members include: ABS US Corp.; Airbus DS SatCom Government, Inc.; Artel, LLC; Cisco; Comtech EF Data Corp.; DRS Technologies, Inc.; Eutelsat America Corp.; Global Eagle Entertainment; Glowlink Communications Technology, Inc.; Hughes; iDirect Government Technologies; Inmarsat, Inc.; Kymeta Corporation; Marshall Communications Corporation.; MTN Government; O3b Limited; Orbital ATK; OneWeb; Panasonic Avionics Corporation; TeleCommunication Systems, Inc.; Telesat Canada; TrustComm, Inc.; Ultisat, Inc.; Vencore Inc.; and XTAR, LLC.