

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2021-1000**

**TITLE: Resolution Advocating for the Future Addition of the United States Space Force Commemorative Pillar to the UF Veterans Memorial**

**AUTHOR(S): Senator John Lin**

**SPONSOR(S): Senator Anna Bernstein, Senator Jamison McAdams**

**WHEREAS**, on September 1, 1982, the Air Force established the Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) with space operations as its primary mission [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the AFSPC provided invaluable space-based support to the United States military during the Cold War, Operation Desert Storm, the Afghanistan War, the Iraq War, and other military operations [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, on December 20, 2019, with the signing of the Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act by President Donald J. Trump, the AFSPC was redesignated the United States Space Force (USSF), established under the Department of the Air Force, making it the sixth service branch of the United States Armed Forces [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the USSF is to protect the United States and allied interests in space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, the responsibilities of the USSF include developing military space professionals, acquiring military space systems, maturing the military doctrine for space power, and organizing space forces to present to our Combatant Commands [1]; and,

**WHEREAS**, on May 21, 2008, the UF Student Senate unanimously approved \$80,000 to fund the construction of a veterans memorial on campus to honor Gators who are currently active and those who died while serving in the armed forces [2]; and,

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2009, the UF Veterans Memorial was dedicated at the Reitz Student Union Amphitheatre, consisting of two flag poles each with two flags, one commemorative pillar, and five commemorative pillars each representing the five military service branches at the time [3]; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is vital to honor our veterans because veterans have served ALL of us, fought for and defended our freedoms, and risked their lives whether or not we realized it or appreciate it; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate and University of Florida Student Government honor the veterans of the United States Space Force with the future addition of a commemorative memorial pillar to the UF Veterans Memorial in the Reitz Student Union Amphitheatre.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate fully supports the efforts of the University of Florida Air Force ROTC, the University of Florida Collegiate Veterans Society, and Student Government to fundraise for the future addition of a USSF commemorative pillar to the UF Veterans Memorial.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate encourages donations to provide a proper memorial and salutes all veterans for their service to our country.

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Associate Vice President & Dean of Students Heather White, Lt. Col. Shannon Moore of the Air Force ROTC, and President Jon Novak of the UF Collegiate Veterans Society.*

References:

[1] United States Space Force. "About Space Force." *United States Space Force*, United States Government, [www.spaceforce.mil/About-Us/About-Space-Force/](http://www.spaceforce.mil/About-Us/About-Space-Force/).

[2] Leva, Elizabeth. "Senate Approves \$80,000 for UF Veterans Memorial." *The Independent Florida Alligator*, The Independent Florida Alligator and Campus Communications Inc., 22 May 2008, [www.alligator.org/article/2008/05/senate-approves-80-000-for-uf-veterans-memorial](http://www.alligator.org/article/2008/05/senate-approves-80-000-for-uf-veterans-memorial).

[3] University of Florida. "Liberty Fountain." *Army ROTC - University of Florida*, University of Florida, [armyrotc.ufl.edu/uf-rotc-alumni/liberty-fountain-fundraiser/](http://armyrotc.ufl.edu/uf-rotc-alumni/liberty-fountain-fundraiser/).