

**Executive Order Creating Washington Council on Aerospace
Renton
May 14, 2009 - FINAL
AS WRITTEN**

Good morning, and thank you all for coming. Mayor Law, thank you for that introduction.

Washington and aerospace have a long and storied history together, and Renton is an integral part of that history. Boeing's Renton plant behind me produced the 707, the airplane that ushered in the jet age; it currently produces the 737, the most successful commercial aircraft ever conceived, and the U.S. Navy's P-8A submarine hunter.

Governors and Legislatures have been building relationships with aerospace and solving problems for 100 years.

But now we do need to do more. And that's why this spring, working with Deloitte Consulting, we took a measured, objective, and long-term look at how we can keep our edge as the state where the best airplanes in the world are built.

Not surprisingly, the study found a lot for us to be proud of and it showed us some steps we need to take to stay ahead of the competition.

Our advantages include aerospace's wide and deep presence in Washington...our incredible workforce...a competitive aerospace tax environment...strong aerospace research and development...and this state's special quality of life.

But the study also confirmed that we need to do more to stay ahead – particularly in making sure everybody gets the maximum bang for the buck from the great aerospace training and research programs in this state.

So today I am happy to announce that I am signing an Executive Order to create the Washington Council on Aerospace and an absolutely focused agenda for these bodies to pursue. I am also creating an aerospace subcabinet to ensure we implement the decisions made by the Council.

The Council on Aerospace will:

Work to better coordinate and organize all the excellent worker-training programs at our community and technical colleges...to make sure our people have the skills the industry needs when they need them and not a day later. Programs at schools like Renton Technical College, Edmonds and Everett Community Colleges and Big Bend Community College.

The Council will also coordinate the world-class R&D programs at our research universities to ensure we are maximizing our impact on the advancement of knowledge in aerospace.

Very importantly, the Council will do what nobody in this country does well. It will integrate the world leading technologies developed at our research institutions into our training programs – so our workforce is immediately capable of applying new technologies to building airplanes.

The Council will manage recruiting and retention of aerospace companies to create jobs and grow the industry.

And the Council will provide policy advice to the Legislature and to me on how we can continually improve our attractiveness to this industry.

Key Washingtonians will be on this Council, and a number of them are here with us today:

- Rogers Weed, our commerce director
- Charlie Earl at our community and technical colleges
- David Schumacher, with the Boeing Company
- Stan Sorscher with SPEEA
- Senator Steve Hobbs
- Senator Mike Hewitt
- Representative Phyllis Kenney
- Representative Judy Warnick
- Also, the Presidents of the University of Washington and Washington State University
- A senior representative from the Machinists Union
- Ann Daley, with the Higher Education Coordinating Board
- And two other aerospace employers

The Aerospace subcabinet will be composed of the leads of the state agencies with direct connections to aerospace, and will be charged with ensuring we implement the decisions made by the council.

Together, these actions will keep us as we say here in Renton “ahead of the curve” as we compete with other states and with other nations to remain the world leader in aerospace.

Aerospace is a dominant industry in our state. It accounts for tens of thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions in revenue. We will make sure our state keeps and grows this industry, and the jobs it brings Washington families.

With that, I will sign the Executive Order to ensure we keep growing aerospace jobs in Washington.