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NSSA Honors Rep. Cooper's Contributions to National Security Space at Event

Washington, DC, 5 December 2022 – On November 29, the [National Security Space Association](#) (NSSA), a non-profit working to foster long-term cooperation among industry and government officials in the national security space community, hosted a dinner event recognizing Representative Jim Cooper (TN-05) and his lifelong commitment to the advance of the national security space enterprise.

'The United States' national security space community would not be what it is without the extraordinary efforts of Representative Cooper,' said Steve Jacques, Executive Director and Founder of NSSA. 'Among his many enduring accomplishments, his bipartisan leadership was instrumental in establishing the United States Space Force and United States Space Command at a critical moment in history.'

The national security space community came together honor Rep. Cooper and recognize his contributions at a dinner hosted by NSSA and the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) on November 29, 2022. Many high-ranking government officials shared their appreciation for Rep. Cooper and his impact on security for the United States as a whole.

'[Rep. Cooper] is what a congressman should be...with respect to national security...You have to reach across the aisle to people who disagree with you. You did that.' – General (ret) John Hyten, Former Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Part of Rep. Jim Cooper's reaching across the aisle included working very closely with Representative Mike Rogers (AL-3) to establish the U.S. Space Force. 'Jim and I worked together throughout, joined at the hip, on this important legislative effort, and I'm proud to call him my friend,' said Rep. Rogers.

Mr. Doug Loverro, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy and NASA Associate Administrator for Human Exploration and Operations, reflected: '[The U.S. Space Force] was a fantastic accomplishment to complete [Rep. Cooper's] congressional career...It seems so infrequent these days that we see that kind of respectful partnership brought to what are truly difficult debates. Your leadership ensured the debate stayed focused on the task at hand and not the politics that could have easily derailed the entire enterprise.'

Other participants in the event included General Jay Raymond, the first Chief of Space Operations of the Space Force; Representative Doug Lamborn (CO-5), a long-time colleague of Rep. Cooper on the House Armed Services Committee; and Dr. John Plumb, the first Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy, a position created by the Space Force legislation.

Earlier this year, Rep. Cooper announced he would not be running for reelection and would instead be pursuing other ventures, 'For everything there is a season, a time and place under the sun. My time in Congress is ending, but I can't wait to start the next adventure.' ([Cooper Statement on Redistricting and Re-Election Press Release, Jan 25, 2022](#))

NSSA is proud to have partnered with AIA in co-hosting this event honoring Rep. Cooper and is thankful for the contributions of sponsor, Lockheed Martin.

About NSSA

Founded August 23, 2018, The National Security Space Association (NSSA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit support association solely dedicated to the National Security Space enterprise. We work to foster long-term cooperation among industry and government officials, leading the way with expert opinion, insight and analysis. We're devoted to fostering a holistic, mission-oriented workforce that will shape the face of National Security Space for generations to come.

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