

**GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO
LA FORTALEZA
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO**

Administrative Bulletin Number: OE-2022-026

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO, HON. PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, ESTABLISHING THE PUERTO RICO AEROSPACE AND AERONAUTICAL INDUSTRY COUNCIL.

WHEREAS: The President of the United States of America, Joseph R. Biden, Jr, has promoted the reactivation of the National Space Council to advise on public policy related to the civil and commercial aerospace and aeronautical industry in the U.S. As a result, in December 2021, the Executive Office of the President published a document titled "United States Space Priorities Framework." This work plan acknowledges the impact that the aerospace industry has on job creation and national security, and its impact as a tool for combating climate change.

WHEREAS: The Federal Department of Commerce is currently developing initiatives related to this industry with the Office of Space Commerce and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). States have also resumed efforts through the Aerospace States Association, an organization of vice-governors, legislators, and state officials whose purpose is to establish public policy, coordinate efforts, educate, and further opportunities for job creation and economic development in this industry.

WHEREAS: According to Morgan Stanley, the aerospace industry will generate nearly one trillion dollars in economic activity by 2040. Currently, the aerospace industry is responsible for creating half a million direct jobs that are considered to be well-paying jobs. The establishment of this type of industry in the states and territories will lead to the creation of research and development centers, specialized education institutions, manufacturing businesses, and satellite design, development, and manufacturing centers, among other infrastructure projects and services.

WHEREAS: Puerto Rico is in a privileged geographic location and maintains the necessary infrastructure for the development of the aerospace industry, as well as a variety of incentive programs for attracting this type of industry. It also has superior specialized education programs, such as the Aeronautical and Aerospace Institute, affiliated with the University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla Campus, and



our internationally recognized engineering graduates from the Mayagüez Campus of the University of Puerto Rico. The quality of Puerto Rican students, and the vast capacity of our human capital, have been proven not only in recent projects such as the launching of a satellite into space by students of the Interamerican University, but also in the successes and recruitment of our professionals at the national Aeronautics and Space Administration (“NASA”). This creates the conditions needed for the establishment, promotion, and development of the aeronautical and space industry on the island.

WHEREAS:

Puerto Rico has begun the process of entering this industry through the establishment of businesses such as Pratt & Whitney, Lockheed Martin, Honeywell Aerospace, Hamilton Sundstrand, AXON Group, Florida Turbine, and ESSIG Research on the island with projects aimed at the development of the aerospace industry. As a result, in 2020, Puerto Rico exported nearly \$107 dollars in aerospace parts and products. However, this industry’s potential is incalculable and demands the establishment of well-defined and attractive public policy that identifies our strengths and growth areas, and that is incorporated into urban planning and economic development efforts, and that is supported by investment and development opportunities created by federal government policies.

WHEREAS:

The Dominican Republic, through the Specialized Airports and Civil Aviation Security Corps (“CESAC” for its initials in Spanish), has announced the creation of an agency intended to coordinate the launching of satellites into space and promote innovation, aerospace technology, and international cooperation in the Caribbean region. In addition, in 2006, Colombia established the Colombian Space Commission as the cross-sector advisory, coordination, guidance, and planning entity intended to guide the execution of national policy for the development and application of aerospace technology, and to coordinate the implementation of plans, programs, and projects within this field.

WHEREAS:

The creation of an Aerospace and Aeronautical Council will provide the structure and coordination needed between the agencies of the Government of Puerto Rico to properly address any questions the private sector or any state or federal government entity may have regarding the establishment of commercial aerospace or aeronautical initiatives in Puerto Rico.



THEREFORE: I, PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Governor of Puerto Rico, by virtue of the powers inherent to my office and the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the Government of Puerto Rico, hereby declare and order the following:

Section 1: **CREATION OF THE PUERTO RICO AEROSPACE AND AERONAUTICAL INDUSTRY COUNCIL.** For the purpose of researching and recommending an integrated plan for the researching, developing, and investing in the aerospace and aeronautical industry in Puerto Rico, the "Puerto Rico Aerospace and Aeronautical Industry Council" ("Council") is hereby created.

Section 2: **COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL.** The Council shall be composed of:

1. The Executive Director of the Ports Authority, who shall serve as its president;
2. The Secretary of the Department of Economic Development and Commerce;
3. The Secretary of the Department of Public Safety;
4. The Adjutant General of the National Guard;
5. The Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Public Works;
6. The President of the Puerto Rico Planning Board;
7. The President of the University of Puerto Rico;
8. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget;
9. The Director of the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration;
10. The Director of the Authority for the Development of Roosevelt Roads;
11. A representative of the Aeronautical and Aerospace Institute;
12. A representative of the Puerto Rico Science, Technology, and Research Trust, Aguadilla Campus, appointed by the President of the University of Puerto Rico;
13. Four (4) citizens with education or experience in the aerospace or aeronautical industries appointed by the Governor;
14. Any other member appointed by the Governor.

Officials who form part of the Council may delegate their representation to other individuals with the capacity to make decisions, either permanently or temporarily.

Section 3:

POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL. The council shall have all of the powers necessary or convenient to comply with the purposes of this Executive Order, including:

1. The authority to outline its work plans;
2. The authority to request information from agencies of the Government of Puerto Rico that may aid in developing their studies and recommendations;
3. The authority to request and receive technical or administrative assistance, or of any other nature.
4. The authority to consult individuals who possess knowledge, expertise, and experience in matters of the aerospace and aeronautical industry, as well as the academic sector.

The council shall meet as often as it deems necessary in order to comply with the purposes of this Order.

Section 4:

COUNCIL OPERATIONS. Members of the council shall carry out their duties *ad honorem* and shall serve for as long as is necessary at the Governor's discretion. The Executive Director of the Ports Authority may appoint personnel from the Ports Authority needed to comply with this Executive Order's purposes.

The council shall establish any internal guidelines it deems necessary to carry out their work, and may hold meetings, to which it may invite representatives of other government agencies or private entities, should it consider it necessary. In addition, it may request and obtain information from the various pertinent agencies, hold hearings, and use any other mechanism to further its work. The Director of the Ports Authority, as President of the Council, shall be the one with the authority to convene, direct, and establish the agenda for meetings.

Section 5:

OBLIGATION TO PUBLISH REPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN. The Council shall present an initial report to the Governor in which it shall provide preliminary details for the proposals developed so far and for the initiatives that are in the process of being evaluated. This first report must be presented within four (4)



months of the Council being duly established. Subsequently, every four (4) months, starting on the date the first report is presented, the Council shall present a report of the progress of their work to the Governor.

Twelve (12) months from the date on which this Executive Order enters into effect, the Council shall present a Development Plan ("Plan") to the Governor that includes: an analysis of the current state of the aerospace and aeronautical industry at the local, national, and international levels; a study of the island's opportunities and challenges with regard to the current state of the industry; the identification of federal programs and funding for the industry's development; a study of the incorporation of Puerto Rico in national security strategies that have an impact on the industry; an analysis of local and federal legislation, as well as of the infrastructure necessary to facilitate the development of the industry and the tools needed for producing intellectual property and transferring knowledge and technology for the creation of small and medium-sized businesses, as well as any other information or analysis that the Council deems pertinent. The Governor may request further reports.

Section 6: **PRIOR ORDERS SUPERSEDED.** This Executive Order shall supersede the parts of any executive order that may, in whole or in part, be inconsistent with the provisions herein, to the extent of such inconsistency, and shall enter into effect immediately.

Section 7: **NON-CREATION OF ENFORCEABLE RIGHTS.** This Executive Order is not intended to create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by any person or entity, in any matter, civil, criminal, or administrative, against the Government of Puerto Rico or its agencies, officials, employees, or any other person.

Section 8: **SEVERABILITY.** The provisions of this Executive Order are separate and independent of each other, and if any part, section, provision, or sentence of this Executive Order is declared unconstitutional, void, or invalid by a court of jurisdiction and venue, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force.

Section 9: **PUBLICATION.** This Executive Order must be filed immediately with the Department of State and the widest possible publication

is hereby ordered.

Section 10: **VALIDITY.** This Executive Order shall enter into force immediately.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereby issue this Executive Order under my signature and cause the Great Seal of the Government of Puerto Rico to be affixed, at La Fortaleza, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on this 25th day of April, 2022.

**PEDRO R. PIERLUISI
GOVERNOR**

Enacted in accordance with the law on this 25th day of April, 2022.

**OMAR J. MARRERO DÍAZ
SECRETARY OF STATE**