## U.S. CONGRESSMAN John Culberson



## 7th DISTRICT OF TEXAS

For Immediate Release: September 1, 2016 Media Contact: 202-225-2571 Emily Taylor Emily. Taylor@mail.house.gov

## **Culberson Visits Aerospace Facilities in Houston**

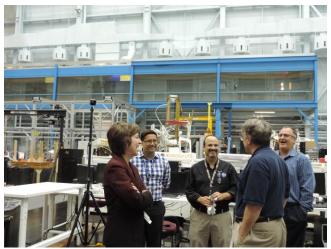
**Houston, TX** -- Representative John Culberson (TX-07) visited the Johnson Space Center Tuesday and participated in a roundtable conversation with aerospace executives at the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership (BAHEP) to discuss future NASA missions and commercial crew, his Space Leadership Preservation Act, and NASA funding in the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations bill. Congressman Culberson also met with Johnson Space Center Director Ellen Ochoa and received updates on the International Space Station, the Orion program, and proving ground missions.

"It was great to have Congressman Culberson meet with our aerospace executives. His influence as chairman of the House CJS Appropriations Subcommittee is vital to the future of the NASA Johnson Space Center. The congressman's continued efforts to increase NASA's overall budget brings stability and continuity to NASA and human space exploration," said Bob Mitchell, president of BAHEP.



Congressman Culberson meeting with BAHEP executives.

"The Johnson Space Center has been a Houston icon for more than fifty years and I'm extremely proud of the work they do. The work being done at JSC today will continue to push the boundaries of space," Representative Culberson said.



Rep. Culberson and Dr. Ellen Ochoa visit with the JSC's International Space Station Virtual Reality Laboratory Team.

"We appreciate Congressman Culberson's continued strong support and enthusiasm for human space exploration. During his visit to the Johnson Space Center, we discussed the progress in all of our human space flight programs, and also visited the unique extraterrestrial materials curation facility," said Dr. Ellen Ochoa, Director of Johnson Space Center.

Representative Culberson also stressed the importance of the Texas Congressional Space Caucus, which he recently co-founded with Rep. Brian Babin. "The Texas delegation has always been proud of Texas' role in space exploration. As we face uncertainty with a new administration, this caucus will help the Texas delegation support JSC and Texas' robust space industry, NASA's Johnson Space Center and Texas Members," Representative Culberson said. "I look forward to-Dr. Ochoa's speech to the caucus in DC next week."

Congressman Culberson appropriated a record \$19.5 billion for NASA in his fiscal year 2017 Commerce, Justice and Science bill, which passed out of full committee in June of this year.

Pictures of Rep. Culberson's visit to Johnson Space Center can be found <u>here</u>.