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WIDENER ANNOUNCES 400 NEW JOBS COMING TO DISTRICT

REGION TO BENEFIT FROM RESEARCH AND AEROSPACE INNOVATIONS

COLUMBUS - State Senator Chris Widener (R-Springfield) released the following statement regarding new job creation in the research and defense-aerospace industries in Clark, Green, and Madison Counties:

“It is great to see private industry stepping up to the plate to create jobs in the Miami Valley,” Widener said. “The defense and aerospace industry holds massive potential for job creation and economic growth in the region, and we need to be doing everything humanly possible to make it happen.”

Earlier today, Senator Widener joined business and community leaders to announce the creation of 250 defense and aerospace jobs as a result of a new partnership between Wright State University and the private sector. This new effort is made possible by an initial \$11.4 million investment within the state biennial budget for the Wright State Research Institute’s Defense Aerospace Graduate Studies Institute.

Senator Widener also attended an open house for Battelle’s *Center for Life Sciences Research* (CLSR). Governor Kasich and senior Battelle leaders were on hand to announce the opening of the new, 220,000 square-foot research facility in West Jefferson. CLSR is the centerpiece of a \$200 million investment in central Ohio that has created more than 600 jobs in the region, including 150 jobs for scientists and technicians in Madison County.

“This new facility is a great example of the impact that research and innovation can have on economic development and job creation,” said Widener. “While this is great news for the region, I believe that this is only the beginning, and I expect many more announcements to come and many more opportunities to be created in the near future.”

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Senator Chris Widener serves the people of the 10th Senate District, which includes Clark, Greene and Madison Counties. He is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and a member of the Senate Ways & Means & Economic Development, Government Oversight & Reform, and Rules & Reference committees.