

**Illinois
Lt Governor Patrick Quinn**

1. In the area of aerospace/defense/space what is the most important issue for you?

As policy committee chairman of the Aerospace States Association (ASA), I have seen great strides by our members in the area of export controls. This topic is important because of the direct impact on our aerospace, defense, and space sectors, both domestic and internationally. By creating a greater awareness and drawing attention to this area, our committee members have been successful in helping to shape national policy. This past March we presented a crucial export controls resolution to Congress (ASA Resolution 108-101). The U.S. House of Representatives recently approved the reforms ASA advocated as part of Resolution 108-101. This reflects the hard work ethic and grassroots spirit among many of our association members.

2. What is the first thing the next president should do to address this issue?

As it relates to export controls and the modernization thereof, our next President should work tirelessly to loosen regulations and streamline procedures affecting national commerce, security, defense, and education. Right now our U.S. export control system is still using policies dating back to the Cold War – well out of date. Current policies have negatively impacted the U.S. in terms of jobs and education as well. The aerospace industry has been affected by restrictive measures administered by multiple federal agencies, including the U.S. Dept. of State and Commerce Department. This has made it difficult for the industry to provide key commercial aviation and aerospace services.

Our ASA resolution supported HR 4246, *“Defense Trade Controls Performance Improvement Act of 2007”* which later became HR 5916, *“Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Reform”*. The U.S. Senate is also expected to write its own version of this bill. Our association is confident this is a step in the right direction. We will continue to encourage Congress and the President to implement ASA export control reforms outlined in ASA Resolution 108-101 – both in the House and Senate. Furthermore, it is the duty and obligation of our next Commander-in-Chief to enforce such reforms thereby improving the U.S. export control system and allowing the aerospace industry to positively and safely benefit.

3. How important are the following issues to aerospace/defense/space interests in your state -- and why?

--Energy and environmental considerations

As Illinois Lieutenant Governor, I have worked hard to preserve and protect the environment in the Land of Lincoln. I continue to advocate for air, land and water stewardship among our 13 million residents. As an active member of ASA, I also recognize the environmental impact of our aviation and aerospace industries. Despite improvements in airliner fuel efficiency which reduces carbon monoxide emissions, other advancements are imminent.

Chicago is home to Boeing's world headquarters. We are proud the company calls our city home. Boeing and other aerospace manufacturers have tapped into the idea of "greening" airplanes. The 787 Dreamliner by Boeing has stood up to the test. Over half the plane is built with carbon fiber composites with less reliance on aluminum, making it lighter and more efficient. It's also quieter than traditional airliners – including on take-offs and landings. Boeing estimates the 787 Dreamliner uses 20% less fuel per passenger compared to equivalent-sized planes. Although this aircraft is not perfect and improvements are being made, I commend the Boeing Corporation for setting the bar with green airplanes.

--Trade regulations and controls on technology exports

(Answered in Questions 1 & 2)

--Education, especially science, math and engineering

A few years ago my office organized a distance-learning event at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago. Our goal was to introduce relevant space topics to young school children via modern technology. Multiple schools participated by way of videoconference. We enlisted the help of astronaut Scott Altman (IL) who answered questions from the children and provided detailed information about being an astronaut.

The event was successful and offered the children a new look at science and aerospace engineering through contemporary uses of technology. As Illinois Lt. Governor I have been a proponent of service-learning education in our state. I have actively pursued new initiatives to better educate our younger generation for the challenges of tomorrow.

--Aerospace workforce

As an active member of ASA, I see the true value in preparing our young adults for tomorrow's workforce. This past December I had the pleasure of participating in the FIRST Robotics competition held in Illinois. FIRST Robotics enables young adults the opportunity to experience innovation, self-confidence and leadership skills. Each young participant was given the task of building an

operable robot scaled down to size. They were given an equal number of supplies and materials to construct their unique product. I was very impressed by the ingenuity and precision demonstrated by each of the young competitors.

This activity helps prepare young adults for entering the aerospace workforce and provides the necessary skills in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math. Here in Illinois, there are thousands of aerospace-related jobs. Many are located in Chicago and also in the Metro East region of our state. Competitions such as FIRST Robotics helps foster a greater understanding among our younger generation as it relates to the skills needed to prepare for a vocation in the aerospace industry.

--Defense funding

Illinois is very fortunate to have two U.S. Senators who advocate for military affairs and increased defense funding. Both have been successful in doing so. Senator Richard Durbin has secured hundreds of millions of dollars in defense funding for various Illinois projects over the past three years. Senator Barack Obama has worked to make sure our national defense system is robust and adaptable, and that our soldiers have the best equipment needed to protect our freedom.

--Manned space flight

As policy committee chairman of ASA, we have discussed the importance of continuing human space flight missions, and, scratched the surface with the idea of sending humans to Mars. NASA plans to phase-out the space shuttle program by 2010 and instead redirect its attention to launching human missions to the moon. The space shuttle program has been a part of America since 1981 and enabled millions of Americans the opportunity to watch human spaceflight missions right from their own home. My committee will continue to explore ways to draw awareness in preserving the space shuttle program. I also encourage further collaboration with NASA regarding a proposed Humans to Mars program.

4. Also which of the candidates – if any – have addressed these issues and what is your reaction to what they've said.

(Senator Obama's office could not be reached for comment on aerospace issues prior to the June 11 deadline)

5. Are there any other issues in aerospace/defense/space that is of concern to you and your state? Have any of the candidates addressed them?

(N/A)