(Washington, DC) Over night, the Space Shuttle *Endeavour* (STS-123) lifted off from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida en route to the International Space Station (ISS).

According to NASA, the shuttle crew will deliver the first section of the Japanese-built Kibo laboratory and the Canadian Space Agency's two-armed robotic system called Dextre.

Leaders of the
U.S.
House Committee on Science and Technology -
including
Rep. Brad Miller, Chairman of the Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee,
joined a delegation of Members of Congress to attend the launch at Kennedy Space Center.

"I have criticized the political appointees running NASA on several issues and they have had it coming," said
Chairman Miller.
"But the space shuttle launch is a reminder that NASA employees doing the day to day work - the astronauts, the engineers and the scientists have the right stuff."

The Science Committee maintains jurisdiction over U.S. civil space and aeronautics activity. For more information about the STS-123 crew and mission to the space station, visit
NASA's website
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