

**WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) today praised NASA’s announcement of a fifth servicing mission to the Hubble Space Telescope:**

“The decision to have a fifth servicing mission to the Hubble Space Telescope is critical to mankind’s efforts to understand the universe that we inhabit. Hubble has provided our scientists with invaluable information and I believe it has much more to give us in the coming months and years.”

Congressman Hoyer represents NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland and has a long record of supporting the Hubble Telescope and Goddard.

“I have fought to maintain this important program through funding and further study of its positive impact on our nation’s space exploration. When the Bush Administration announced that it was no longer planning the service mission I joined with the other members of the Maryland Congressional delegation to secure \$350 million in Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006 for a servicing mission.”

“I would like to congratulate all of the hard working men and women at Goddard who have made and will continue to make Hubble such a successful program.”