

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.C.R. 49
By: Davis, John (Jackson)
State Affairs
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Engrossed

AUTHOR'S/SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Legislature of the State of Texas is pleased to pay tribute to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), whose intrepid explorations of space and important scientific discoveries have inspired and benefited the people of our nation and state.

The Space Exploration Vision has set a goal of returning the space shuttle to flight, completing assembly of the International Space Station, developing the Crew Exploration Vehicle, returning humans to the moon, and pursuing human exploration of Mars and the solar system.

NASA's landmark achievement in putting the first man on the moon, astronaut Neil Armstrong, on July 20, 1969, captured the imagination of people everywhere. This major accomplishment ushered in new and exciting technological advances that have benefited our nation's security and cellular communications; NASA has also advanced our health care system through the development of MRI and CAT scan technology, fetal heart monitors, programmable heart pacemakers, and other important medical devices.

Through education programs like Texas Aerospace Scholars, the NASA Explorer Schools, and the Network of Educator Astronaut Teachers, NASA is nurturing a new generation of explorers and scientists who can contribute to our nation's excellence.

NASA plays a vital role in the economy of the Lone Star State, by employing nearly 3,000 civil servants and approximately 13,000 contractors at the Johnson Space Center and by awarding almost \$4 billion worth of NASA contracts annually; small businesses across Texas with technical challenges have benefited from the support of the aerospace industry, NASA, and the State of Texas' support of the Technology Outreach Program, resulting in new business ventures within the state.

The Space Exploration Vision has the potential to further drive innovation, development, and advancement in the aerospace and other high technology industries across the nation and in the State of Texas.

The extraordinary contributions of NASA to science and technology are the pride of our state, and the Space Exploration Vision is truly deserving of legislative recognition.

RESOLVED

The 79th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby respectfully urge all members of the United States Congress to fully fund the National Aeronautics and Space Administration budget request in support of the Space Exploration Vision, as submitted to the congress for fiscal year 2006, to enable the United States, and the State of Texas, to remain leaders in the exploration and development of space; and, be it further

The Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.