

By Senator Altman

24-00663-10

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
urging Congress to fully support the space program and
recognize the significance of research related to
human space flight.

WHEREAS, the Space Shuttle program is scheduled to end in
the near future, and

WHEREAS, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
is beginning the transition to new launch systems that enable
humans to explore beyond low earth orbit, and

WHEREAS, NASA and the White House Office of Science and
Technology Policy established the Review of U.S. Human Space
Flight Plans Committee to review the progress and status of the
national human space exploration mission and the programs and
systems being developed to enable human space exploration, and

WHEREAS, the committee found that human space exploration
can drive technology innovation, develop commercial industries
and national capabilities, demonstrate international leadership
and contribute to scientific knowledge, inspire the next
generation, and chart a path for human expansion into the solar
system, and

WHEREAS, the committee found that human exploration beyond
low earth orbit is not viable under the current federal budget
guidelines and that additional annual funding for human space
exploration is necessary in order to establish a meaningful
program, and

WHEREAS, the committee found that NASA's budget should
match its mission and goals, and that NASA should be given the

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30 ability to shape its organization and infrastructure
31 accordingly, while maintaining facilities of national
32 importance, and

33 WHEREAS, the current budget will result in a significant
34 gap in U.S. human space flight capabilities, which may result in
35 the loss of critical national capabilities of workforce
36 experience and the aerospace industrial base, and

37 WHEREAS, the State of Florida has invested \$27 million in
38 the Space Life Sciences Lab at the Kennedy Space Center to
39 promote life sciences research, and

40 WHEREAS, it is in the national interest to establish a
41 robust and sustainable program of human space exploration, NOW,
42 THEREFORE,

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44 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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46 That the Congress of the United States is requested to:

47 (1) Increase the level of NASA's budget to a level
48 sufficient to enable the development of exploration systems and
49 vehicles, operate the International Space Station through 2020,
50 and reduce the gap in U.S. human space flight;

51 (2) Support the life sciences research necessary for long-
52 term human space flight beyond low earth orbit;

53 (3) Direct appropriate work and programs to utilize
54 Florida's unique workforce skills and aerospace facilities to
55 preserve and enhance national space launch capability; and

56 (4) Support the increased utilization and sustainable
57 development of federal and state spaceports as national
58 resources supporting commercial enterprises and research and

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59 technology development.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
61 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
62 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
63 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
64 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.