

By Senator Altman

16-03822-16

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution honoring the courage and bravery of the
3 space shuttle Challenger crew on the 30th anniversary
4 of the Challenger disaster.

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6 WHEREAS, the space shuttle Challenger, the second shuttle
7 put into service by NASA, was successfully launched and landed
8 nine times between April 4, 1983, and October 30, 1985, and

9 WHEREAS, during Challenger's tenth liftoff from the Kennedy
10 Space Center on January 28, 1986, one of its O-ring seals, which
11 had become brittle in the cold temperatures, failed, causing its
12 right-hand solid rocket booster to separate from its external
13 fuel tank, resulting in the shuttle's disintegration only 73
14 seconds into its mission at 11:39 a.m., and

15 WHEREAS, the disaster killed the seven-person crew: Mission
16 Commander Francis R. "Dick" Scobee, Pilot Michael J. Smith,
17 Mission Specialist Judith A. Resnik, Mission Specialist Ellison
18 S. Onizuka, Mission Specialist Ronald E. McNair, Payload
19 Specialist Gregory B. Jarvis, and Teacher-in-Space Payload
20 Specialist Sharon Christa McAuliffe, and

21 WHEREAS, Christa McAuliffe, a teacher from Concord, New
22 Hampshire, was scheduled to become the first teacher in space as
23 part of the Teacher in Space Project to conduct experiments and
24 teach lessons from the Challenger to encourage children to
25 pursue careers in science and mathematics, and

26 WHEREAS, many lessons have been learned from the tragic
27 loss of the Challenger and its crew, and those lessons have
28 increased the dedication of the United States and NASA to make
29 space exploration safer for everyone for the benefit of mankind,
30 and

31 WHEREAS, January 28, 2016, was the 30th anniversary of the
32 tragic accident of the space shuttle Challenger and the loss of

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33 its seven brave crew members, NOW, THEREFORE,

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35 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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37 That the space shuttle Challenger's crew is honored for
38 their courage and bravery on the 30th anniversary of the
39 Challenger disaster.