



1           WHEREAS, Texas colleges and universities receive over \$10  
2 million in NASA science and engineering grants and contracts; and

3           WHEREAS, NASA operates ambitious education outreach programs  
4 across the state through JSC, including NASA Explorer Schools and  
5 the Texas Aerospace Scholars Program; and

6           WHEREAS, the desire to explore is part of America's  
7 character, and history has shown that space exploration benefits  
8 all humankind through new technologies for everyday application,  
9 new jobs across the entire economic enterprise, economic  
10 contributions through new markets and commercial products,  
11 education and inspiration, U.S. leadership, increased security,  
12 and a legacy for future generations; and

13           WHEREAS, a Space Exploration Vision has recently been  
14 articulated to affirm the United States' commitment to human space  
15 exploration and give NASA a new focus and clear objectives,  
16 including long-term human and robotic programs to explore the solar  
17 system, and a return to the Moon that will ultimately enable future  
18 exploration of Mars and other destinations; and

19           WHEREAS, the Space Exploration Vision begins with NASA  
20 returning the Space Shuttle to safe flight, with the chief purpose  
21 of completing assembly on the International Space Station, in  
22 addition to developing a new Crew Exploration Vehicle to explore  
23 beyond earth's orbit to other worlds, all of which are goals  
24 uniquely suited for the expertise resident at the NASA Johnson  
25 Space Center located in our state; and

26           WHEREAS, the Space Exploration Vision has the potential to  
27 drive innovation, development, and advancement in the aerospace and

1 other high-technology industries across the nation, and in the  
2 state of Texas; and

3 WHEREAS, the proposed budget request for NASA in fiscal year  
4 2005 fully supports the Space Exploration Vision, aligns NASA  
5 programs with the Vision goals, affirms the Nation's commitment to  
6 space exploration, and provides a clear direction for the U.S.  
7 space program; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED by the House of Representatives and Senate of the  
9 State of Texas, jointly, that the Legislature of the State of Texas  
10 hereby strongly encourages all members of the United States  
11 Congress to fully fund NASA in the amount of \$16.2 billion in  
12 support of the Space Exploration Vision, as submitted to the  
13 Congress for Fiscal Year 2005, to enable the United States, and the  
14 state of Texas, to remain a leader in the exploration and  
15 development of space; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Texas Secretary of State forward official  
17 copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the  
18 United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to  
19 each Senator and Representative from Texas in the Congress of the  
20 United States, and to the NASA Administrator.