

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, On February 1, 2003, the space shuttle *Columbia* and  
2 its entire crew of seven were lost in the skies over Texas, and this  
3 tragic event has brought shock and a profound sense of loss to all  
4 Americans and people the world over; and

5 WHEREAS, *Columbia's* crew, commander Rick Husband, pilot  
6 William McCool, payload commander Michael Anderson, payload  
7 specialist Ilan Ramon, and mission specialists Laurel Clark, David  
8 Brown, and Kalpana Chawla hailed from across the United States, as  
9 well as Israel and India, but were united in their willingness to  
10 endure the dangers of spaceflight to expand mankind's scientific  
11 knowledge; and

12 WHEREAS, Each crew member understood full well the joys of  
13 flight as were immortalized by John Gillespie Magee, Jr., in his  
14 poem *High Flight*:

15 "Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth  
16 And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
17 Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth  
18 Of sun-split clouds and done a hundred things  
19 You have not dreamed of--wheeled and soared and swung  
20 High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,  
21 I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
22 My eager craft through footless halls of air.  
23 Up, up, up the long, delirious burning blue  
24 I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace

1       Where never Lark, or even Eagle flew--  
2       And while with silent lifting mind, I've trod  
3       The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
4       Put out my hand and touched the face of God."; and

5       WHEREAS, The process of exploring and comprehending the world  
6 around us has always been a driving force in human nature, and  
7 although often fraught with peril, the fulfillment of that desire  
8 continues to be among our most noble aspirations; and

9       WHEREAS, America's space program has witnessed tragedy  
10 before with the deaths of three astronauts in the Apollo 1 fire of  
11 1967, and in the 1986 *Challenger* explosion, which, like the loss of  
12 *Columbia*, claimed the lives of an entire shuttle crew; in spite of  
13 the nation's grief in the wake of these accidents, the United States  
14 has continued its efforts in this visionary exploration because  
15 abandoning them would not only limit our own potential for  
16 understanding the universe but would also mean turning our backs on  
17 the dreams of those who perished in the belief that man's reach,  
18 even into the hostile and seemingly limitless expanse of space,  
19 must always exceed his grasp; now, therefore, be it

20       RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas  
21 hereby pay tribute to the lives of the crew of the space shuttle  
22 *Columbia* and extend sincere condolences to the members of their  
23 families and to the many people who mourn their loss around the  
24 globe; and, be it further

25       RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for the members of their families and that when the Texas  
27 House of Representatives and Senate adjourn this day, they do so in

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1 memory of these heroic men and women, who gave their lives in  
2 service to mankind.

Eissler  
Talton  
Taylor  
Smith of Harris

Davis of Harris  
Hochberg  
Pena  
Flynn

Craddick	Giddings	Merritt
Allen	Goodman	Miller
Alonzo	Goolsby	Moreno of Harris
Bailey	Griggs	Moreno of El Paso
Baxter	Grusendorf	Morrison
Berman	Guillen	Mowery
Bohac	Gutierrez	Naishtat
Bonnen	Haggerty	Nixon
Branch	Hamilton	Noriega
Brown of Kaufman	Hamric	Oliveira
Brown of Brazos	Hardcastle	Olivo
Burnam	Harper-Brown	Paxton
Callegari	Hartnett	Pena
Campbell	Heflin	Phillips
Canales	Hegar	Pickett
Capelo	Hilderbran	Pitts
Casteel	Hill	Puente
Castro	Hochberg	Quintanilla
Chavez	Hodge	Rangel
Chisum	Homer	Raymond
Christian	Hope	Reyna
Coleman	Hopson	Riddle
Cook of Navarro	Howard	Ritter
Cook of Colorado	Hughes	Rodriguez
Corte	Hunter	Rose
Crabb	Hupp	Seaman
Crownover	Isett	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Harris	Jones of Lubbock	Smith of Harris
Davis of Dallas	Jones of Bexar	Smithee
Dawson	Jones of Dallas	Solis
Delisi	Keel	Solomons
Denny	Keffer of Dallas	Stick
Deshotel	Keffer of Eastland	Swinford
Driver	King	Talton
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Taylor
Dunnam	Krusee	Telford
Dutton	Kuempel	Thompson
Edwards	Laney	Truitt
Eiland	Laubenberg	Turner
Eissler	Lewis	Uresti
Elkins	Luna	Van Arsdale
Ellis	Mabry	Villarreal
Farabee	Madden	West
Farrar	Marchant	Wilson
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Wise
Flynn	McCall	Wohlgemuth
Gallego	McClendon	Wolens
Garza	McReynolds	Wong
Gattis	Menendez	Woolley
Geren	Mercer	Zedler

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 38 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on February 3, 2003.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 38 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the Senate on February 12, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor