

By: Davis of Harris

H.C.R. No. 200

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Citizens of the State of Texas were shocked and
2 deeply saddened by the tragic loss of the NASA space shuttle
3 *Columbia* and her extraordinary crew when the shuttle broke up
4 during reentry over the Texas sky on February 1, 2003; and

5 WHEREAS, The STS-107 mission crew was composed of commander
6 Rick Husband, pilot William C. McCool, payload commander Michael P.
7 Anderson, mission specialist David M. Brown, mission specialist
8 Kalpana Chawla, mission specialist Laurel B. Clark, and payload
9 specialist Ilan Ramon; all of these remarkable individuals resided
10 in Texas and were respected and admired for their bravery, courage,
11 and dedication to their mission and to the exploration of space; and

12 WHEREAS, Members of the Texas Legislature remain proud of the
13 crew's contributions to science and engineering, international
14 cooperation, human exploration, and the celebration of the human
15 spirit; and

16 WHEREAS, A key component of the NASA mission is "to inspire
17 the next generation of explorers," and *Columbia's* brilliant,
18 talented, and accomplished crew members will forever be remembered
19 as trailblazing heroes by young people who aspire to pursue the
20 noble cause of space exploration and scientific research; and

21 WHEREAS, The Johnson Space Center and the Texas Legislature
22 have long encouraged the students of this state to study math,
23 science, and engineering through their collaborative sponsorship
24 of education and technology programs designed to interest young

1 people in the excitement of space exploration, and this goal has
2 only been strengthened through the contributions of the crew of the
3 space shuttle *Columbia* and those who came before them; now,
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
6 hereby recognize the numerous benefits to humankind of space flight
7 and the importance of maintaining support for innovative programs
8 that inspire future scientists and engineers who will continue the
9 legacy of *Columbia* and her crew; and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Texas House of Representatives and Senate
11 hereby pay tribute to the fallen heroes of the space shuttle
12 *Columbia*, whose memory will be forever honored and cherished, and
13 extend deepest condolences to the members of their families, the
14 Johnson Space Center community, and the entire NASA family.