

By: J. Davis of Harris

H.R. No. 651

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For more than 60 years, the National Aeronautics and
2 Space Administration has inspired our nation and the world with its
3 outstanding record of intrepid space exploration and scientific
4 discovery; and

5 WHEREAS, NASA's innumerable engineering advances have
6 greatly benefited our nation's security, safety, and
7 communications systems, and innovations pioneered by NASA
8 scientists and engineers have led to such improvements in
9 healthcare technology as the MRI and the CAT scan, the fetal heart
10 monitor, and the programmable heart pacemaker; and

11 WHEREAS, The agency's strong presence in the Lone Star State
12 has long been a source of pride for all Texans; the Johnson Space
13 Center in Houston is a global leader in human spaceflight, serving
14 as the training center for America's corps of astronauts; the
15 center is continuing that legacy by serving as the headquarters for
16 the development of the nation's latest spacecraft, the Orion
17 Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle; this effort includes working with
18 private partners and conducting advanced research that will
19 strengthen the future of space exploration; and

20 WHEREAS, The Johnson Space Center also plays a vital role in
21 the Texas economy, employing more than 3,000 civil servants and
22 approximately 12,000 civilian contractors and awarding \$4.9
23 billion in contracts every year; in addition, NASA's Space Alliance
24 Technology Outreach Program benefits small businesses across the

1 state, and through education programs such as Texas Aerospace
2 Scholars, NASA is nurturing and inspiring a new generation of
3 scientists, engineers, and explorers; and

4 WHEREAS, NASA continues to drive further innovation in the
5 aerospace and high-tech industries, and its development of
6 technologies that simultaneously reach for the stars and better our
7 lives here on Earth is truly deserving of special recognition; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
10 Legislature hereby recognize March 19, 2013, as Space Day at the
11 State Capitol and honor the National Aeronautics and Space
12 Administration for its immeasurable contributions to this state and
13 nation.