

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 888

WHEREAS, The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Johnson Space Center in Houston is the American headquarters for the International Space Station, one of the most impressive scientific and engineering achievements in history; and

WHEREAS, A joint project of NASA, the Russian Federal Space Agency, the European Space Agency, the Canadian Space Agency, and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, the International Space Station is the result of a remarkable collaboration between 15 countries, sharing the most advanced technologies in the world for the peaceful and productive use of space, and thousands of Texas workers have contributed greatly to this success; and

WHEREAS, The largest structure that humans have ever put into space, the International Space Station is made up of pressurized modules held together by external trusses and powered by a vast array of solar panels; the station is the length of a football field, and the solar array has the wingspan of a Boeing 777; orbiting the globe every 92 minutes at an altitude of roughly 250 miles, the International Space Station is large enough to be seen from the surface of the Earth by the naked eye; and

WHEREAS, Since November 2000, the International Space Station has been continuously occupied by international teams of astronauts who, during that time, have conducted thousands of experiments in a microgravity environment, focusing on human health, space studies, engineering development, materials testing, and global education; these experiments are helping develop NASA's capabilities for such long-duration, deep-space missions as a trip to Mars and back, and are assisting businesses, other government

agencies, and university researchers develop knowledge and products that have and will result in benefits to humanity for years to come; and

WHEREAS, With its many ongoing research projects and its educational outreach touching the lives of people around the world, the International Space Station is one of the global community's most successful programs, helping to improve life on Earth even as it inspires our species to reach for the stars; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 83rd Legislature, hereby commend NASA for its achievements as part of the International Space Station program and extend to the many Texans who have given to it so much of their skill, effort, and passion sincere best wishes for continued success in their important work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for NASA as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

Taylor

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 16, 2013.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate