

By: Middleton

H.R. No. 223

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, NASA astronaut Christina H. Koch set a record for  
2 the longest spaceflight by a woman on February 6, 2020, when she  
3 returned from a 328-day mission aboard the International Space  
4 Station; and

5           WHEREAS, With her long voyage, Ms. Koch gave scientists a  
6 vital opportunity to study the long-term effects of spaceflight on  
7 female astronauts; she also participated in a number of research  
8 projects, including investigations of fresh food production,  
9 vertebral strength, kidney health, and the behavior of fire in  
10 space; in addition, she studied how a protein key in the growth of  
11 cancer crystallizes in microgravity; she and a fellow astronaut  
12 conducted the first all-female spacewalk as well; and

13           WHEREAS, Ms. Koch attended North Carolina State University,  
14 where she earned bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering and  
15 physics and a master's degree in electrical engineering; in 2001,  
16 she graduated from the NASA Academy program at Goddard Space Flight  
17 Center; she worked in instrument development at NASA Goddard Space  
18 Flight Center's Laboratory for High Energy Astrophysics and at the  
19 Space Department of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics  
20 Laboratory; furthermore, she was a research associate in the United  
21 States Antarctic Program and conducted remote scientific field work  
22 at Palmer Station in Antarctica, Summit Station in Greenland, and  
23 NOAA's Global Monitoring Division Baseline Observatory in Barrow,  
24 Alaska; she also served as station chief of the American Samoa

1 Observatory; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2013, Ms. Koch was named one of eight members of  
3 the 21st NASA astronaut class, and she was assigned to her first  
4 spaceflight five years later; she is the recipient of numerous  
5 accolades, among them the NASA Group Achievement Award; and

6 WHEREAS, Christina Koch has made many significant  
7 contributions to our nation's space program, and her record-setting  
8 flight is a source of inspiration to people the world over; now,  
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby congratulate Christina H. Koch on completing the  
12 longest spaceflight by a female astronaut and extend to her sincere  
13 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
15 prepared for Ms. Koch as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
16 House of Representatives.