

By: Hinojosa of Nueces

S.C.R. No. 12

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Since the "space race" of the 1960s, Texas has been
2 at the forefront of space exploration, discovery, and innovation,
3 and the state is sure to play an instrumental role in defining the
4 next phase of American involvement in space; and

5 WHEREAS, Texas is home to NASA's Lyndon B. Johnson Space
6 Center as well as more than 2,000 aerospace establishments; during
7 the 88th Session of the Texas Legislature, the Texas Space
8 Commission was established to strengthen the state's leadership in
9 aerospace activity, and the Texas Aerospace Research and Space
10 Economy Consortium was launched to serve as a forum for higher
11 education and industry experts seeking to advance the state's role
12 in space operations; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2023, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the
14 Texas Economic Development Corporation recognized Texas as a
15 powerhouse in the rapidly expanding private space sector;
16 commercial investment in space transportation has driven the need
17 for spaceport sites, operating environments, and infrastructure,
18 and Texas ranks second in the nation in the number of spaceport
19 locations; and

20 WHEREAS, Tax-exempt private activity bonds currently finance
21 a wide range of facilities, including airports, docks, and wharves,
22 which, like spaceports, serve as hubs for the transportation of
23 people and freight; the qualification of spaceports for tax-exempt
24 private activity bonds would encourage more investment in aerospace

1 infrastructure, benefiting both Texas and the nation as a whole;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The United States cannot afford to fall behind in
4 the highly competitive field of space operations, and making
5 spaceports eligible for tax-exempt private activity bonds would
6 help to ensure that the nation maintains its leadership in space
7 commerce; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the 89th Legislature of the State of Texas
9 hereby respectfully urge the United States Congress to amend the
10 Internal Revenue Code to make spaceports eligible for tax-exempt
11 private activity bonds; and, be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
13 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
14 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
15 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
16 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
17 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a
18 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.