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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 31, 2023 "NEW MEXICO AEROSPACE DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, New Mexico is the birthplace of the United States space and missile programs; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is the third state to host human spaceflight; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico offers favorable elevations for aerospace operations, including three hundred forty days on average of sunshine annually, abundant land and a sparse population, creating the perfect conditions for launching rockets and recovering payloads; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to over eighty innovative aerospace companies performing satellite component and rocket design, aerospace parts manufacturing, space launch and data analytics; and

WHEREAS, commercial aerospace in New Mexico provides considerable economic and employment impacts, including more than three hundred million dollars (\$300,000,000) and over eight thousand jobs; and

WHEREAS, the three major federal research laboratories in New Mexico have a combined annual budget of over six billion dollars (\$6,000,000,000) and employ over twenty-one thousand people; and

1 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to flight testing facilities
2 with access to over six thousand square miles of restricted
3 airspace, four major United States military installations and
4 twenty federal, state and privately funded laboratories; and

5 WHEREAS, New Mexico is ranked in the top three states
6 for drone-friendly skies; and

7 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to many superb sites of air
8 and space activity, including the United States army White
9 Sands missile range, the national aeronautics and space
10 administration White Sands test facility, Kirtland air force
11 base, the space force rapid capabilities office, the air
12 force research laboratory, Sandia national laboratories, Los
13 Alamos national laboratory and New Mexico state university's
14 physical science laboratory; and

15 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to the world's first
16 purpose-built commercial spaceport, spaceport America, which
17 hosts suborbital launches and someday will host launches to
18 orbit; and

19 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to leading research
20 universities, including the New Mexico institute of mining
21 and technology that operates the Magdalena research
22 observatory and the very large array; and

23 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico is home to the
24 institute of meteoritics and New Mexico state university is a
25 core member of both the federal aviation administration

1 center of excellence for commercial space transportation and
2 the center of excellence for unmanned aircraft systems; and

3 WHEREAS, spaceport America hosts the world's largest
4 college-level student rocket competition, the spaceport
5 America cup; and

6 WHEREAS, New Mexico will continue to lead in aerospace
7 education through its superb science, technology, engineering
8 and mathematics education programs and world-class research
9 universities; and

10 WHEREAS, the aerospace states association – New Mexico
11 chapter sponsors events to highlight the contributions of the
12 aerospace community in New Mexico;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 31,
15 2023 be declared "New Mexico Aerospace Day" in the house of
16 representatives; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the aerospace states association – New Mexico
19 chapter.

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