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HOUSE MEMORIAL 16

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

Tara L. Lujan

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

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1 analytics; and

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

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

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

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

16 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to many superb sites of air
17 and space activity, including the United States army White
18 Sands missile range, the national aeronautics and space
19 administration White Sands test facility, Kirtland air force
20 base, the space force rapid capabilities office, the air force
21 research laboratory, Sandia national laboratories, Los Alamos
22 national laboratory and New Mexico state university's physical
23 science laboratory; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to the world's first
25 purpose-built commercial spaceport, spaceport America, which

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1 hosts suborbital launches and someday will host launches to
2 orbit; and

3 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to leading research
4 universities, including the New Mexico institute of mining and
5 technology that operates the Magdalena research observatory and
6 the very large array; and

7 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico is home to the
8 institute of meteoritics and New Mexico state university is a
9 core member of both the federal aviation administration center
10 of excellence for commercial space transportation and the
11 center of excellence for unmanned aircraft systems; and

12 WHEREAS, spaceport America hosts the world's largest
13 college-level student rocket competition, the spaceport America
14 cup; and

15 WHEREAS, New Mexico will continue to lead in aerospace
16 education through its superb science, technology, engineering
17 and mathematics education programs and world-class research
18 universities; and

19 WHEREAS, the aerospace states association – New Mexico
20 chapter sponsors events to highlight the contributions of the
21 aerospace community in New Mexico;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
23 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 31,
24 2023 be declared "New Mexico Aerospace Day" in the house of
25 representatives; and

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