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A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS  
AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION BUDGET REQUEST IN SUPPORT OF THE  
SPACE EXPLORATION VISION.

WHEREAS, the United States is a nation of explorers; and

WHEREAS, space exploration, particularly as carried out  
under the auspices of the national aeronautics and space  
administration, has generated more than its share of  
discovery through new technologies for everyday application,  
economic contributions through new markets and commercial  
products, education programs for future explorers, increased  
security capabilities and a legacy for future generations;  
and

WHEREAS, the space exploration vision has set goals of  
returning the space shuttle to flight, completing assembly of  
the international space station, developing the crew  
exploration vehicle, returning humans to the moon and  
pursuing human exploration of Mars and the solar system; and

WHEREAS, the national aeronautics and space  
administration has long inspired the next generation of  
explorers and scientists by example and through a variety of  
programs that encourage young people to pursue professional  
careers critical to the nation's future excellence, such as  
the space settlement design competition, the national

1 aeronautics and space administration explorer schools and the  
2 science advisor program that have directly benefited the  
3 people of New Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, institutions of higher education across New  
5 Mexico have benefited immeasurably from the more than twenty-  
6 five million dollars (\$25,000,000) they have received in  
7 national aeronautics and space administration grants and  
8 contracts annually; and

9 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to the national aeronautics  
10 and space administration's White Sands test facility and the  
11 White Sands complex, which positively impacts the state's  
12 economy by employing more than fifty-eight civil servants and  
13 approximately nine hundred forty contractors and by awarding  
14 one hundred four million dollars (\$104,000,000) in national  
15 aeronautics and space administration contracts annually; and

16 WHEREAS, the White Sands test facility provides the  
17 expertise and infrastructure to test and evaluate spacecraft  
18 materials, components and propulsion systems in order to  
19 enable the safe exploration and use of space, such as the  
20 White Sands space harbor, facilities for hypervelocity impact  
21 testing, including accommodations for hazardous targets, and  
22 a repair depot for components in the toxic hyperbolic  
23 propellant, oxygen and hydrogen systems aboard the shuttle  
24 and the international space station; and

25 WHEREAS, White Sands complex provides tracking and data

1 relay services for spacecraft, including the shuttle, in low  
2 earth orbit using a system of geosynchronous satellites and  
3 ground-based antenna systems; and

4 WHEREAS, the talent, technology and infrastructure exist  
5 in New Mexico to continue providing the necessary resources to  
6 support national aeronautics and space administration's future  
7 missions;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
9 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that congress be requested to fully fund  
10 the national aeronautics and space administration budget  
11 request in support of space exploration vision, as submitted  
12 to congress for fiscal year 2006, to enable the United States  
13 and New Mexico to remain leaders in the exploration and  
14 development of space; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
16 transmitted to the administrator of the national aeronautics  
17 and space administration, the president of the United States  
18 and the New Mexico congressional delegation. \_\_\_\_\_