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HOUSE MEMORIAL 46

**47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005**

INTRODUCED BY

Andy Nuñez

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

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1 exploration vehicle, returning humans to the moon and pursuing  
2 human exploration of Mars and the solar system; and

3 WHEREAS, the national aeronautics and space administration  
4 has long inspired the next generation of explorers and  
5 scientists by example and through a variety of programs that  
6 encourage young people to pursue professional careers critical  
7 to the nation's future excellence, such as the space settlement  
8 design competition, the national aeronautics and space  
9 administration explorer schools and the science advisor program  
10 that have directly benefited the people of New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, institutions of higher education across New  
12 Mexico have benefited immeasurably from the more than twenty-  
13 five million dollars (\$25,000,000) they have received in  
14 national aeronautics and space administration grants and  
15 contracts annually; and

16 WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to the national aeronautics  
17 and space administration's White Sands test facility and the  
18 White Sands complex, which positively impacts the state's  
19 economy by employing more than fifty-eight civil servants and  
20 approximately nine hundred forty contractors and by awarding  
21 one hundred four million dollars (\$104,000,000) in national  
22 aeronautics and space administration contracts annually; and

23 WHEREAS, the White Sands test facility provides the  
24 expertise and infrastructure to test and evaluate spacecraft  
25 materials, components and propulsion systems in order to enable

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1 the safe exploration and use of space, such as the White Sands  
2 space harbor, facilities for hypervelocity impact testing,  
3 including accommodations for hazardous targets, and a repair  
4 depot for components in the toxic hyperbolic propellant, oxygen  
5 and hydrogen systems aboard the shuttle and the international  
6 space station; and

7 WHEREAS, White Sands complex provides tracking and data  
8 relay services for spacecraft, including the shuttle, in low  
9 earth orbit using a system of geosynchronous satellites and  
10 ground-based antenna systems; and

11 WHEREAS, the talent, technology and infrastructure exist  
12 in New Mexico to continue providing the necessary resources to  
13 support national aeronautics and space administration's future  
14 missions;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that congress be  
17 requested to fully fund the national aeronautics and space  
18 administration budget request in support of space exploration  
19 vision, as submitted to congress for fiscal year 2006, to  
20 enable the United States and New Mexico to remain leaders in  
21 the exploration and development of space; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
23 transmitted to the administrator of the national aeronautics  
24 and space administration, the president of the United States  
25 and the New Mexico congressional delegation.

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