

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1868

A RESOLUTION memorializing the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to enact and fully fund the proposed vision for space exploration to enable the United States to remain a leader in the exploration and development of space.

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

WHEREAS, When Christopher Columbus made his voyages across the Atlantic in the 15th and 16th centuries, his ships carried the inscription “Following the light of the sun, we left the Old World”; and

WHEREAS, Exploration and discovery have been especially important to the American experience, providing vision, hope and economic stimulus, from New World pioneers and American frontiersmen to the Apollo program; and

WHEREAS, Just as Lewis and Clark could not have predicted the settlement of the American West within a hundred years of the start of their famous 19th century expedition, the total benefits of a single exploratory undertaking or discovery cannot be predicted in advance; and

WHEREAS, The desire to explore is part of our character, and history has shown that space exploration benefits all humankind through new technologies for everyday application, new jobs across the entire economic contributions through new markets and commercial products, education and inspiration, United States leadership, increased security and a legacy for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Kansas has been a leader in the exploration and development of space since the dawn of the space age, including the establishment of the Kansas Cosmosphere and NASA’s National Center for Advanced Materials Performance at Wichita State University’s National Institute for Aviation Research; and

WHEREAS, Our nation’s new vision for space exploration charts a new “building block” strategy to explore destinations across our solar system with robots and humans, allowing our nation to remain competitive in the new industry of space commerce; and

WHEREAS, The proposed vision for space exploration is both sustainable and affordable: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That the Congress of the United States is requested to enact and fully fund the proposed vision for space exploration, as submitted to the Congress in the Fiscal Year 2005 Budget of the United States Government, to enable the United States to remain a leader in the exploration and development of space; and that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Kansas delegation to the United States Congress.

Senate Resolution No. 1868 was sponsored by Senator Dave Kerr.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*