

**116th CONGRESS**  
**X SESSION**

# **H . J . RES . XXX**

To designate July 20th "Space Exploration Day Holiday"

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Xxxxx xx, 2019**

Mr. TBD will introduce the following joint resolution; which will be referred to the  
TBD Committee of the House of Representatives

## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

To designate July 20th as "Space Exploration Day Holiday".

*Whereas* President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, before a joint session of Congress on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1961, declared that "this nation should commit itself, to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth;" and

*Whereas* on July 20, 1969, the World's attention was riveted on the historic achievement of the first landing, footsteps, and exploration of our Moon; and

*Whereas* the nine-day mission of Apollo 11 kept the world spellbound from its July 16<sup>th</sup> launch through its July 24<sup>th</sup> splash down, securing its place among the epic voyages of human history with those of Magellan, Drake, Columbus and others; and

*Whereas* United States National Space Policy provides for a United States-led, integrated program with commercial and international partners for a human return to the Moon, followed by missions to Mars and beyond; and

*Whereas* the purpose of the United States space program is, and has always been, the peaceful exploration of space for the benefit of all humanity; and

*Whereas* the United States space program has provided immense scientific and technological benefits affecting a multitude of aspects of 21<sup>st</sup> Century life for all humanity; and

*Whereas* the United States space program, through otherworldly programs such as Apollo, Viking, Voyager, Cassini-Huygens, Spirit, Opportunity, New Horizons and other missions to the planets, the Space Shuttle, the Hubble Space Telescope, the International Space Station and other great space efforts, have provided our Nation with unparalleled scientific and technological leadership in the space, aeronautics, medical, and engineering sciences; and

*Whereas* the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the American aerospace industry and educational institutions throughout the Nation contribute enormously to our Nation's intellectual capacity through research and development in support of the space program, and add great strength to the United States economy; and

*Whereas* the space program and America's aerospace industry engage the best and the brightest minds that mirror the scientific and technical skill and quality of the highest order and the finest in American character-- sacrifice, ingenuity inventiveness, commitment and our unrelenting spirit of adventure; and

*Whereas*, we also honor the over 400,000 patriots, from government, industry and academia, whose exemplary efforts put our astronauts on the Moon, and recognize the millions of private sector jobs those efforts created as a result of the technological challenges they overcame to bring Project Apollo to fruition; and

*Whereas* the same spirit of adventure and engineering excellence that landed our Apollo space pioneers on the Moon may be applied to all noble pursuits involving peace, brotherhood, courage, unity of the human spirit and the exploration of new frontiers; and

*Whereas*, as a Nation, it is important to mobilize and invigorate American appreciation and enthusiasm for space, to advance science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education through the excitement of space exploration, and to inspire today's and future generations to build upon the accomplishments of our early space pioneers so they may reach new milestones of human achievement; and

*Whereas* humankind will continue to explore, expand, and settle the new frontier of space with American leadership, courage, and values for the benefit of future spacefaring generations *and for life on Earth*; now, therefore be it

1 Resolved by the Senate and House of representatives of the United States of  
2 America in Congress assembled, that **July 20<sup>th</sup>** will now and forever be designated  
3 as "**Space Exploration Day**," a nonpaid commemorative holiday. The

4 President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people  
5 of the United States to observe “**Space Exploration Day**” and the period July 16th  
6 through 24th as the **Apollo Space Observance**, with appropriate ceremonies,  
7 celebrations and activities commemorating one of the greatest scientific and  
8 technological achievements of our time so we may inspire new generations to aspire  
9 to ever loftier future space pioneering goals.

DRAFT

**PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER  
FOR SPACE EXPLORATION DAY 2019 -  
A NON-PAID HOLIDAY**

I, Donald J. Trump, President of the United States of America, do hereby issue this executive directive to establish **July 20<sup>th</sup>** of each year, as the national **Space Exploration Day Holiday**, to commemorate and celebrate the anniversary of the first landing on another world, our Moon, recognizing Apollo 11 as the pinnacle achievement for our early space program, an epic journey for the ages, and Project Apollo as the pathfinder for humanity's future exploration and space settlement goals. We also wish to honor the over 400,000 American aerospace professionals who made Projects Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo such great successes and acknowledge that the technological advances of our early space efforts laid the foundation for millions of private sector jobs in today's economy. This permanent holiday is open to the present and all future generations. It will be established as a nonpaid holiday of the same order and official federal status as Flag Day.

July 16 – 24 of each year is hereby designated as the **Apollo Space Observance**, to commemorate and celebrate the nine-day anniversary of the full Apollo 11 Lunar Mission, from launch date to splashdown; one of the great defining events in human history.

The President will issue an annual proclamation, calling upon the people of the United States to establish bold Apollo-Like Moonshot Goals to maintain American preeminence in space, to nurture our pioneering spirit, and to guarantee American leadership in the creation of a spacefaring civilization.