

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 156

BY SENATORS HEWITT AND BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend and recognize Alyssa Carson on her many accomplishments.

WHEREAS, since Alyssa Carson was a little girl, she had her heart set on the stars; and

WHEREAS, at the tender age of three, she told her daddy that she wanted to be an astronaut and go to Mars; and

WHEREAS, since then, all of her passion and focus has been channeled into making that dream a reality; and

WHEREAS, at the age of sixteen, Alyssa has witnessed three space shuttle launches and attended space camp seven times, the Space Academy three times, the Robotics Academy once, is the youngest to graduate from the Advanced Space Academy, and has participated in several Sally Ride Science Camps; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 and 2013, she furthered her education at Space Camp Turkey and Space Camp Canada, becoming the first person to attend all three National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) space camps worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa is also the first and only person to complete the NASA Passport to Explore Space program, visiting all fourteen NASA visitor centers stretching across nine states; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, NASA invited her to be on the MER 10 panel in Washington, DC, via a live broadcast on NASA Television to discuss future missions to Mars; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa was later selected as one of seven ambassadors representing Mars One, a mission to establish a human colony on Mars in 2030; and

WHEREAS, in October 2016, she was the youngest person to be accepted to, and graduate from, the Advanced PoSSUM (Polar Suborbital Science in the Upper Mesosphere) Academy, officially making her an astronaut trainee and certified to go into space - the two-year program including graduate level courses she took in order for her to make a

suborbital space flight with PoSSUM Academy to continue the research they are doing on noctilucent clouds that only exist in the Mesosphere; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa has delivered talks in fifteen countries, including a TED Talk in Kalamata, Greece, and participated in Microsoft events in New York and Detroit as part of a community outreach; and

WHEREAS, a student at The Baton Rouge International School, Alyssa studies all the subjects that she takes in four languages and supplements her regular school work with courses in Space Psychology at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University where she has completed requirements to receive a certification of Applied Astronautics, again being the youngest and one of the first to achieve this certification; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa Carson completed survival training, post-landing rescue, and egress from the Orion capsule within a ten-day training program to prepare her for survival and how to leave the Orion capsule in case it were to land off course; the training also included spacesuit training in the water and surviving in a life raft situation out in the real sea; and in completing the course, she was the youngest to do so; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa also has been invited this summer to geology training in Iceland where the Apollo moon walkers trained, a program starting back up due to people going back to the moon and going to Mars, and Alyssa is invited to help with the beta testing of this program to start it back up; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa's achievements and singularity of purpose have brought international notoriety and she has become a role model and motivational speaker for children around the world from a number of backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, she is driven by an insatiable desire to live life to the fullest, break through the ceiling of possibilities, and make a positive and lasting impact on the world; and

WHEREAS, Alyssa's message is simple: find a passion and pursue it; and

WHEREAS, she wants to "encourage people to find goals and aspirations, and then work towards them and never give up"; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to herald the achievements of Louisiana's accomplished youth like Alyssa Carson, a model student and citizen who represents the best and brightest of the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Alyssa Carson on her many accomplishments and does hereby wish her continued success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Alyssa Carson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE