

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165

BY SENATOR HEWITT

A RESOLUTION

To designate Thursday, May 3, 2018, as "NASA Day" at the state capitol and to commend NASA and the Michoud Assembly Facility on their significant accomplishments which have positively impacted the United States and the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center and Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans have been instrumental in the success of the United States Space Program during the previous five decades, manufacturing in Louisiana the Saturn rockets for the Apollo program and the external tanks for the space shuttle program from the 1970s until the program was retired in 2011; and

WHEREAS, NASA is preparing to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, with Marshall leading our nation's development of the Space Launch System (SLS) which will be the most powerful rocket ever built, allowing America's leadership in space to continue beyond low-Earth orbit, to enable human exploration of the lunar vicinity, and to lead future missions to deep space with an eye toward Mars; and

WHEREAS, NASA and the state of Louisiana share a commitment to promote the growth of a well-trained aerospace workforce and sustain the world class manufacturing capabilities at Michoud Assembly Facility, where NASA is building the SLS and the Orion Multipurpose Crew Vehicle that will usher in a new era of exploration and discovery taking mankind further than we have been before; and

WHEREAS, Marshall is, in a continuation of its work on the International Space Station, Chandra X-ray Observatory, and the new Imaging X-Ray Polarimetry Explorer Mission, developing robust science missions to expand understanding of our planet, solar system, and the universe; and

WHEREAS, NASA spinoffs have benefitted Louisiana by decontaminating polluted soil and groundwater; providing forecasting models for storm surge predictions, weather models, and fishing hotspots; enabling the remote transfer of high-speed digital data; and lowering costs and reducing manufacturing time for the prosthetics industry; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the state of Louisiana are indeed exceedingly proud of their state's critical role in the United States Space Program and the tremendous advances in space exploration and scientific progress its cooperation with NASA has produced.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Thursday, May 3, 2018, as "NASA Day" at the state capitol and does hereby commend NASA and the Michoud Assembly Facility on their significant accomplishments which have positively impacted the United States and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center Director Todd May and the distinguished engineers, technicians, management, and support personnel working at Michoud Assembly Facility, all of whom have achieved distinction beyond measure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Todd May.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE