Public Law 96-34
96th Congress

Joint Resolution

July 17, 1979
[H.J. Res. 353]

Congratulating the men and women of the Apollo program upon the tenth anniversary of the first manned landing on the Moon and requesting the President to proclaim the period of July 16 through 24, 1979, as "United States Space Observance".

Whereas the decision by this Nation to land men on the Moon and return them safely to Earth was a bold decision unlike any other; and

Whereas the success of the Apollo program, America's manned missions to the Moon, represented an unparalleled triumph of this country's scientific and technological genius; and

Whereas the vitality of the partnership between American industry, Government, and universities was demonstrated by the Apollo missions and their pioneering predecessors, Mercury and Gemini; and

Whereas the steadfast courage of the Apollo astronauts recalls the heroic spirit of earlier Americans and serves as models for skill and bravery in the future; and

Whereas the openness and peaceful nature of Apollo underscores the freedoms and desire for peace so characteristic of American society; and

Whereas the vision of planet Earth, floating in a sea of vast darkness as photographed by the men aboard the Apollo spacecraft, has altered forever our view of ourselves and of our fragile world; and

Whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and other organizations throughout the world involved in space exploration have cooperated in the cause of peaceful exploration of space for the benefit of all mankind; and

Whereas in the week of July 16 through 24, 1969, the people of the world were brought closer together by the first manned exploration of the Moon: Now, therefore, be it

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United States Space Observance. Designation authorization.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress upon the tenth anniversary of the first manned landing on the Moon congratulates the men and women who made Apollo possible; and be it further

Resolved, That the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating the period of July 16 through 24, 1979, as "United States Space Observance", and calling upon the people of the United States to observe such period with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved July 17, 1979.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 96-320 (Comm. on Post Office and Civil Service).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-240 accompanying S.J. Res. 77 (Comm. on the Judiciary).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 125 (1979):
July 10, considered and passed House.
July 12, considered and passed Senate.