

## **H. Res. 1421**

### ***In the House of Representatives, U. S.,***

*September 28, 2010.*

Whereas, on April 11, 1970, Apollo 13 was launched with an intended destination of Fra Mauro highlands on the Moon;

Whereas on the way to the Moon, roughly 199,990 miles from Earth, the number 2 oxygen tank exploded and seriously damaged the Apollo 13 spacecraft;

Whereas after mission control calculated that a lunar landing was impossible, mission control decided to fly a circumlunar orbit and use the Moon's gravity to return the ship to Earth;

Whereas the tireless and heroic work of both mission control and the astronauts on board the spacecraft allowed Apollo 13 to safely navigate back to Earth;

Whereas the heroic work of mission control in Houston, Texas, solved a number of unique engineering problems, such as using the lunar module as a lifeboat for the crew and devising a carbon dioxide control system completely from scratch;

Whereas without the outstanding work of the men and women at mission control, the astronauts would most certainly not have been able to return to Earth safely;

Whereas the safe return of the crew is a testament to United States ingenuity, and a can-do attitude which represents the best of the space program and the Nation;

Whereas the Apollo program lasted from 1961 to 1975 and set a number of milestones in human spaceflight, including the first mission that left low Earth orbit and the first man on the Moon;

Whereas the Apollo program spurred advances in many areas of technology including avionics, telecommunications, and computers; and

Whereas the Apollo missions sparked interest in many fields of engineering which benefitted the United States economy, national psyche, and leadership in science and technology: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 13 mission;

(2) recognizes the bravery and heroism of the astronauts of the Apollo 13 mission, as well as the men and women in mission control;

(3) reaffirms its support of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and human space flight; and

(4) recognizes the tremendous advances to science and technology in the United States that were spurred by the Apollo space program.

Attest:

*Clerk.*