



H.Res. 1466– Honoring Dr. Guion S. "Guy" Bluford, Jr., and the 25th anniversary of his historic flight as the first African-American in space

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1466 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Donna Edwards (D-MD) on September 18, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1466 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 22, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1466 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Salutes the 25th anniversary of the pioneering accomplishments of Dr. Guion `Guy' S. Bluford, Jr. as the first African-American in space; and
- Extends its gratitude and deep appreciation for Dr. Bluford's dedication, commitment, and excellence as an astronaut and a leader in support of the Nation's space program.

BACKGROUND

Dr. Guion S. 'Guy' Bluford, Jr. was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1942. Dr. Bluford was a trained engineer and Air Force pilot before becoming a NASA astronaut in 1979. On August 30, 1983, Dr. Bluford became the first African-American to enter space, as a member of the STS-8 space shuttle mission crew. This was the first mission to both launch and land at night.

Subsequently, Dr. Bluford flew three additional NASA shuttle missions, his last flight occurring in 1992. In 1993, he left NASA and retired as an Air Force Colonel. Dr. Bluford received his Ph.D. from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1978. He was inducted into the International Space Hall of Fame in 1997.

STAFF CONTACT

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