



H. Con. Res. 225– Honoring the 50th anniversary of the dawn of the Space Age, and the ensuing 50 years of productive and peaceful space activities

Floor Situation

H.Con.Res. 225 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 Bart Gordon (D-TN) on October 3, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology, but was never considered.

H.Con.Res. 225 is expected to be considered by the House of Representatives on October 15, 2007.

Summary

H.Con.Res. 225 honors the 50th anniversary of the dawn of the Space Age and recognizes the value of investing in America's space program.

H.Con.Res. 225 declares that it is in America's best interest to continue to advance knowledge and improve life on Earth through a sustained national commitment to space exploration in all its forms. This advancement will be led by a new generation of well-educated scientists, engineers, and explorers.

Background

The dawn of the Space Age took place on October 4, 1957 with the launch of Sputnik 1 by the Soviet Union. The launch of Sputnik 1 led to the American launch of Explorer 1 on January 31, 1958.

A new chapter in space exploration opened when cosmonauts and astronauts first orbited the Earth in the early 1960s. This chapter culminated in the historic first steps taken by astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. on the Moon in 1969.

The competition between the Soviet Union and the United States during the Space Age helped to reinvigorate the Nation's interest in science and technology, which led to an increased investment in research and education in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics -education.

The new global competition for preeminence in science, technology, and innovation has encouraged a renewed commitment to research and education similar to that which followed the dawn of the Space Age.

Though NASA has suffered setbacks and failures in the past they continue to enrich the lives of billions by exploring the cutting edges of science and technology.

Staff Contact

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.