

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 43**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member O'Donnell**  
*(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Hadley)*

March 9, 2015

---

---

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 43—Relative to California Aerospace Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 43, as amended, O'Donnell. California Aerospace Week.

This measure would recognize the contributions of the aerospace industry to the history, economy, security, and educational system of California, its communities, and its citizens by proclaiming the week of March 23, 2015, through March 27, 2015, as California Aerospace Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1     ~~WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry is a powerful,~~  
2     ~~reliable source of employment, innovation, and export income,~~  
3     ~~directly employing more than 200,000 people in California and~~  
4     ~~supporting more than 307,000 jobs in related fields; and~~  
5     ~~WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry leads the United~~  
6     ~~States in aerospace and defense services, including the design and~~  
7     ~~manufacture of aircraft, spacecraft, and commercial satellites, as~~  
8     ~~well as a myriad of systems and instruments for search, detection,~~  
9     ~~navigation, guidance, and radio and television broadcast and~~  
10    ~~wireless communication systems; and~~

1 WHEREAS, California is home to many superb sites of air and  
2 space activity, including Vandenberg Air Force Base, two Federal  
3 Aviation Administration-licensed launch sites, the Mojave Air and  
4 Spaceport, more than 20 astronomical observatories, multiple  
5 international airports, many important defense aerospace bases,  
6 and hundreds of business and general aviation airfields; and

7 WHEREAS, California is also home to three National  
8 Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) research and  
9 engineering centers. These centers are recognized as the Ames  
10 Research Center, the NASA Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research  
11 Center, formerly known as the Dryden Flight Research Center,  
12 and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL); and

13 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in aeronautical firsts  
14 and California's aerospace industry produced many of the  
15 significant and record-breaking aircraft that are now represented  
16 in The Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.  
17 The Spirit of St. Louis, which in 1927 made the first solo nonstop  
18 transatlantic flight from New York to Paris, was designed and built  
19 in California by Ryan Airlines and made Charles Lindbergh an  
20 international hero. The Douglas DC-3, recognized as the most  
21 successful airliner in history, dominating both commercial and  
22 military air transportation from its introduction in 1935 until after  
23 World War II, was designed and built in California by the Douglas  
24 Aircraft Company. The Space Shuttle was designed, built,  
25 assembled, and tested in California. California is home to Edwards  
26 Air Force Base, the site of five test flights of the Shuttle Enterprise,  
27 the landing site of 54 Space Shuttle missions, and the site of the  
28 199 X-15 missions; and

29 WHEREAS, Edwards Air Force Base, known for its notable  
30 aeronautical achievements, was the location of many first flights  
31 of American aircraft, shuttles, and experimental jets flown from  
32 Rogers Dry Lake in the Mojave Desert of Kern County. America's  
33 first jet, XP-59A, was first flown in California. General Charles  
34 "Chuck" Yeager made world history in California on October 14,  
35 1947, when he became the first man to fly Mach 1, faster than the  
36 speed of sound, while piloting the Bell X-1 rocket plane. The rocket  
37 powered X-15, flown by former State Senator William J. "Pete"  
38 Knight, attained a speed of Mach 6.7 (4,520 miles per hour), a  
39 speed that remains, to this day, the highest ever attained in a

1 manned aircraft. The Rutan Model 76 Voyager was the first aircraft  
2 to fly around the world without stopping or refueling; and

3 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in human  
4 space exploration, including the manufacture of the Apollo 11  
5 command module that carried the first humans to the surface of  
6 our moon; the manufacture and landing of the Space Shuttle  
7 orbiters, the first reusable space vehicles, which include the  
8 Endeavour, on display at the California Science Center; and the  
9 manufacture and recovery of the SpaceX Dragon capsule and  
10 Falcon launch vehicle, the first privately funded space exploration  
11 system; and

12 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in robotic  
13 space exploration, including the Explorer 1 Earth observation  
14 satellite as America's first successful spacecraft, the Mariner 2 as  
15 the first spacecraft to explore another planet, the Viking landers  
16 as the first spacecrafts to perform experiments on another planet,  
17 and the development of the Pioneer 10 spacecraft as the first to  
18 exit our solar system; and

19 WHEREAS, Californians, through NASA and JPL, build,  
20 manage, and operate the majority of the spacecraft exploring our  
21 solar system, including the most recent Mars Science Laboratory  
22 "Curiosity," and those spacecraft exploring other solar systems,  
23 like the Kepler exoplanet discovery mission, as well as the SOFIA,  
24 the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, that  
25 administers the Airborne Astronomy Ambassadors program for  
26 educators who have inspired the dreams of California youth; and

27 WHEREAS, California aerospace industries build the impressive  
28 Northrop Grumman Global Hawk Unmanned Aircraft Systems,  
29 engineer radical new aircraft at the famous Lockheed Martin  
30 "Skunk Works" Advanced Development Programs facility, and  
31 create systems that assist and protect members of the United States  
32 Armed Forces through military communications, situational  
33 awareness, satellite-guided ordnance, and technologies yet to be  
34 dreamed of; and

35 WHEREAS, California will continue to lead in aerospace  
36 education, through its superb Science, Technology, Engineering  
37 and Mathematics (STEM) education programs and at its  
38 world-class research universities, and thus will continue to lead  
39 the world with the innovation that enabled advanced meteorological  
40 forecasting, the Global Positioning System, NextGen tools for air

1 traffic management, green aviation, sophisticated wind tunnels  
2 and test facilities, and advanced supercomputing and robotics; and  
3 ~~WHEREAS, The American Institute of Aeronautics and~~  
4 ~~Astronautics (AIAA), in conjunction with the Aerospace States~~  
5 ~~Association (ASA), California Chapter, is sponsoring events to~~  
6 ~~highlight the contributions of the aerospace community to~~  
7 ~~California, including panel discussions and educational displays~~  
8 ~~during March 2015; now, therefore, be it~~

9 *WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry is a powerful,*  
10 *reliable source of employment, innovation, and export income,*  
11 *directly employing more than 203,000 people in California and*  
12 *supporting more than 511,000 jobs in related fields resulting in*  
13 *\$2.9 billion in annual state income tax revenues; and*

14 *WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry leads the United*  
15 *States in aerospace and defense services, including the design and*  
16 *manufacture of aircraft, spacecraft, and commercial satellites, as*  
17 *well as a myriad of systems and instruments for search, detection,*  
18 *navigation, guidance, and radio and television broadcast and*  
19 *wireless communication systems; and*

20 *WHEREAS, California is home to many superb sites of air and*  
21 *space activity, including Vandenberg Air Force Base, two Federal*  
22 *Aviation Administration-licensed launch sites, the Mojave Air and*  
23 *Spaceport, more than 20 astronomical observatories, multiple*  
24 *international airports, many important defense aerospace bases,*  
25 *and hundreds of business and general aviation airfields; and*

26 *WHEREAS, California is also home to three National*  
27 *Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) research and*  
28 *engineering centers. These centers are recognized as the Ames*  
29 *Research Center, the NASA Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research*  
30 *Center, formerly known as the Dryden Flight Research Center,*  
31 *and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL); and*

32 *WHEREAS, California has led the nation in aeronautical firsts*  
33 *and California's aerospace industry produced many of the*  
34 *significant and record-breaking aircraft that are now represented*  
35 *in the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.*  
36 *The Spirit of St. Louis, which in 1927 performed the first solo*  
37 *nonstop transatlantic flight from New York to Paris, France, was*  
38 *designed and built in California by Ryan Airlines and made*  
39 *Charles Lindbergh an international hero. The Douglas DC-3,*  
40 *recognized as the most successful airliner in history, dominating*

1 *both commercial and military air transportation from its*  
2 *introduction in 1935 until after World War II, was designed and*  
3 *built in California by the Douglas Aircraft Company. The Space*  
4 *Shuttle was designed, built, assembled, and tested in California.*  
5 *California is home to Edwards Air Force Base, the site of five test*  
6 *flights of the Shuttle Enterprise, the landing site of 54 Space Shuttle*  
7 *missions, and the site of the 199 X-15 missions; and*

8 *WHEREAS, Edwards Air Force Base, known for its notable*  
9 *aeronautical achievements, was the location of many first flights*  
10 *of American aircraft, shuttles, and experimental jets flown from*  
11 *Rogers Dry Lake in the Mojave Desert of Kern County. America's*  
12 *first jet, XP-59A, was first flown in California. General Charles*  
13 *"Chuck" Yeager made world history in California on October 14,*  
14 *1947, when he became the first man to fly Mach 1, faster than the*  
15 *speed of sound, while piloting the Bell X-1 rocket plane. The rocket*  
16 *powered X-15, flown by former State Senator William J. "Pete"*  
17 *Knight, attained a speed of Mach 6.7 (4,520 miles per hour), a*  
18 *speed that remains, to this day, the highest ever attained in a*  
19 *manned aircraft. The Rutan Model 76 Voyager was the first aircraft*  
20 *to fly around the world without stopping or refueling; and*

21 *WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in human*  
22 *space exploration, including the manufacture of the Apollo 11*  
23 *command module that carried the first humans to the surface of*  
24 *our moon; the manufacture and landing of the Space Shuttle*  
25 *orbiters, the first reusable space vehicles, which include the*  
26 *Endeavour, on display at the California Science Center; and the*  
27 *manufacture and recovery of the SpaceX Dragon capsule and*  
28 *Falcon launch vehicle, the first privately funded space exploration*  
29 *system. The SpaceX Dragon cargo spacecraft will make its 5th*  
30 *commercial cargo resupply flight to the International Space Station*  
31 *in 2015; and*

32 *WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in robotic*  
33 *space exploration, including the Explorer 1 Earth observation*  
34 *satellite as America's first successful spacecraft, the Mariner 2 as*  
35 *the first spacecraft to explore another planet, the Viking landers*  
36 *as the first spacecrafts to perform experiments on another planet,*  
37 *and the development of the Pioneer 10 spacecraft as the first to*  
38 *exit our solar system; and*

39 *WHEREAS, Californians, through NASA and JPL, build,*  
40 *manage, and operate the majority of the spacecraft exploring our*

1 solar system, including the most recent Mars Science Laboratory  
2 “Curiosity,” and those spacecraft exploring other solar systems,  
3 like the Kepler exoplanet discovery mission, as well as the SOFIA,  
4 the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, that  
5 administers the Airborne Astronomy Ambassadors program for  
6 educators who have inspired the dreams of California youth; and  
7 WHEREAS, Sally Kristen Ride, Ph.D., who was born in  
8 California, stands in history as a pioneer in space exploration and  
9 academia, and serves as a role model for others, by virtue of having  
10 been the first American woman and the youngest person to go into  
11 space when she traveled aboard the Challenger spacecraft on June  
12 18, 1983; and  
13 WHEREAS, California aerospace industries assemble the  
14 legendary Boeing C-17 Globemaster III, build the impressive  
15 Northrop Grumman Global Hawk Unmanned Aircraft Systems,  
16 engineer radical new aircraft at the famous Lockheed Martin  
17 “Skunk Works” Advanced Development Programs facility, and  
18 create systems that assist and protect members of the Armed Forces  
19 of the United States through military communications, situational  
20 awareness, satellite-guided ordnance, and technologies yet to be  
21 dreamed of; and  
22 WHEREAS, Los Angeles Air Force Base, home of the Space and  
23 Missile System Center (SMC) since 1962, carries out vitally  
24 important work, including managing research, development, and  
25 acquisition of aerospace technology for military space systems,  
26 and continues to be an irreplaceable economic hub and center of  
27 military space acquisition excellence for the nation; and  
28 WHEREAS, California will continue to lead in aerospace  
29 education, through its superb science, technology, engineering,  
30 and mathematics (STEM) education programs and at its  
31 world-class research universities, and thus will continue to lead  
32 the world with the innovation that enabled advanced  
33 meteorological forecasting, the Global Positioning System,  
34 NextGen tools for air traffic management, green aviation,  
35 sophisticated wind tunnels and test facilities, and advanced  
36 supercomputing and robotics; and  
37 WHEREAS, The American Institute of Aeronautics and  
38 Astronautics (AIAA), and the Aerospace States Association (ASA),  
39 California Chapter, are sponsoring a week of events to highlight

1 *the contributions of the aerospace community to California; now,*  
2 *therefore, be it*

3 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
4 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the  
5 contributions of the aerospace industry to the history, economy,  
6 security, and educational system of California, its communities,  
7 and its citizens by proclaiming the week of March 23, 2015,  
8 through March 27, 2015, as California Aerospace Week; and be  
9 it further

10 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
11 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O