

**House Resolution**

**No. 13**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Hadley  
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Lackey)**

March 9, 2015

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House Resolution No. 13—Relative to California Aerospace Week.

1 WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry is a powerful,  
2 reliable source of employment, innovation, and export income,  
3 directly employing more than 203,000 people in California and  
4 supporting more than 511,000 jobs in related fields resulting in  
5 \$2.9 billion in annual state income tax revenues; and

6 WHEREAS, The California aerospace industry leads the United  
7 States in aerospace and defense services, including the design and  
8 manufacture of aircraft, spacecraft, and commercial satellites, as  
9 well as a myriad of systems and instruments for search, detection,  
10 navigation, guidance, and radio and television broadcast and  
11 wireless communication systems; and

12 WHEREAS, California is home to many superb sites of air and  
13 space activity, including Vandenberg Air Force Base, two Federal  
14 Aviation Administration-licensed launch sites, the Mojave Air and  
15 Spaceport, more than 20 astronomical observatories, multiple  
16 international airports, many important defense aerospace bases,  
17 and hundreds of business and general aviation airfields; and

18 WHEREAS, California is also home to three National  
19 Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) research and  
20 engineering centers. These centers are recognized as the Ames  
21 Research Center, the NASA Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research  
22 Center, formerly known as the Dryden Flight Research Center,  
23 and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). The Ames Research

1 Center and the NASA Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center  
2 were originally National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics  
3 (NACA) research centers, formerly known as the NACA Ames  
4 Aeronautical Laboratory and the NACA High-Speed Flight  
5 Research Station, respectively. March 3, 2015, marks the  
6 Centennial of the NACA; and

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

23 WHEREAS, Edwards Air Force Base, known for its notable  
24 aeronautical achievements, was the location of many first flights  
25 of American aircraft, shuttles, and experimental jets flown from  
26 Rogers Dry Lake in the Mojave Desert of Kern County. America's  
27 first jet, XP-59A, was first flown in California. General Charles  
28 "Chuck" Yeager made world history in California on October 14,  
29 1947, when he became the first man to fly Mach 1, faster than the  
30 speed of sound, while piloting the Bell X-1 rocket plane. The rocket  
31 powered X-15, flown by former State Senator William J. "Pete"  
32 Knight, attained a speed of Mach 6.7 (4,520 miles per hour), a  
33 speed that remains, to this day, the highest ever attained in a  
34 manned aircraft. The Rutan Model 76 Voyager was the first aircraft  
35 to fly around the world without stopping or refueling; and

36 WHEREAS, California has led the nation in firsts in human  
37 space exploration, including the manufacture of the Apollo 11  
38 command module that carried the first humans to the surface of  
39 our moon; the manufacture and landing of the Space Shuttle  
40 orbiters, the first reusable space vehicles, which include the

1 Endeavour, on display at the California Science Center; and the  
2 manufacture and recovery of the SpaceX Dragon capsule and  
3 Falcon launch vehicle, the first privately funded space exploration  
4 system. SpaceShipOne, winner of the \$10 million Ansari X Prize,  
5 the Collier Trophy in 2004, and the National Air and Space  
6 Museum Trophy, was designed, built, and flown in Mojave,  
7 California. SpaceShipOne produced the first commercial astronaut,  
8 Mike Melvill, who was the pilot for SpaceShipOne’s first  
9 spaceflight on June 21, 2004, which was the first privately funded  
10 human spaceflight mission to reach space; and

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

18 WHEREAS, Californians, through NASA and JPL, build,  
19 manage, and operate the majority of the spacecraft exploring our  
20 solar system, including the most recent Mars Science Laboratory  
21 “Curiosity,” and those spacecraft exploring other solar systems,  
22 like the Kepler exoplanet discovery mission, as well as the  
23 Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA), which  
24 has reached full operational capability and now serves as a world  
25 class observatory, giving scientists an unprecedented view directly  
26 into the center of our own galaxy. SOFIA administers the Airborne  
27 Astronomy Ambassadors program for educators who have inspired  
28 the dreams of California youth; and

29 WHEREAS, California aerospace industries assemble the  
30 legendary Boeing C-17 Globemaster III, build the impressive  
31 Northrop Grumman Global Hawk Unmanned Aircraft Systems,  
32 engineer radical new aircraft at the famous Lockheed Martin  
33 “Skunk Works” Advanced Development Programs facility, and  
34 create systems that assist and protect members of the United States  
35 Armed Forces through military communications, situational  
36 awareness, satellite-guided ordnance, and technologies yet to be  
37 dreamed of; and

38 WHEREAS, California will continue to lead in aerospace  
39 education, through its superb Science, Technology, Engineering,  
40 and Mathematics (STEM) education programs and at its

1 world-class research universities, and thus will continue to lead  
2 the world with the innovation that enabled advanced meteorological  
3 forecasting, the Global Positioning System, NextGen tools for air  
4 traffic management, green aviation, sophisticated wind tunnels  
5 and test facilities, and advanced supercomputing and robotics; and

6 WHEREAS, The American Institute of Aeronautics and  
7 Astronautics (AIAA) and the Aerospace States Association (ASA),  
8 California Chapter, are sponsoring a week of events to highlight  
9 the contributions of the aerospace community to California; now,  
10 therefore, be it

11 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,* That the  
12 Assembly recognizes the contributions of the aerospace industry  
13 to the history, economy, security, and educational system of  
14 California, its communities, and its citizens by proclaiming the  
15 week of March 23, 2015, through March 27, 2015, as California  
16 Aerospace Week; and be it further

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