



ASA Resolution 109-103

Ensure NASA Space Leadership

WHEREAS, the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 created a civilian agency designated to expand human knowledge of the Earth, of phenomena in the atmosphere and space and preserve the role of the United States as a leader in space science;

WHEREAS, the NASA Authorization Act of 2008 reaffirms this commitment and calls for a balanced set of programs including space exploration, space and Earth science research, as well as aeronautics research;

WHEREAS, U.S. investment in space science and exploration has yielded technological innovations that have increased our standard of living as a nation, contributed to a high level of national security, and inspired generations;

WHEREAS, NASA space-based research has made and continues to make significant contributions to global climate change research;

WHEREAS, other countries (i.e., China, India and Japan) are increasing their investments—and ambitions—in space;

WHEREAS, retaining the United States' leadership position in space must be treated as a national priority and be provided the resources required to keep its programs on schedule;

WHEREAS, the President's budget request for NASA for fiscal year 2010 is \$18.7 billion, which is less than 7/10 of one percent of the total federal budget;

WHEREAS, Congress has provided an additional \$1 billion for NASA in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that adequate funding in amount no less than the President's budget request for fiscal year 2010 be designated for NASA to ensure a balanced civil space program (exploration, science, aeronautics and astrobiology); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a goal be established to provide one percent of the federal budget for NASA as soon as practicable in order to ensure America's leadership in space.

The Honorable Brian Dubie, Vermont Lt. Governor,
Chair, Aerospace States Association