

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35—SENATORS RAGGIO, TITUS, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O’CONNELL, O’DONNELL, PORTER, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

APRIL 18, 2001

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Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Commends Buzz Aldrin for his lifetime achievements. (BDR R-1521)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Commending Buzz Aldrin for his lifetime achievements.

- 1 WHEREAS, Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr., was born in Montclair, New Jersey, on
- 2 January 20, 1930, and is now known worldwide as “Buzz” Aldrin, after
- 3 legally changing his name to reflect the nickname given to him by his
- 4 sister, who called him “Buzzer” when she couldn’t quite pronounce
- 5 “brother”; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Buzz Aldrin was influenced by the interests of his father, a
- 7 pioneer in aviation who studied rocket development, and one must wonder
- 8 whether his mother’s name, Marion Moon, was just a coincidence; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Buzz graduated with honors in 1951 from the United States
- 10 Military Academy at West Point, ranking third in his class of 475, was
- 11 commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force and received his
- 12 wings in 1952; and
- 13 WHEREAS, During the Korean War, Buzz Aldrin distinguished himself
- 14 by destroying two enemy MIG-15s and flying F-86 Sabre jets in 66 combat
- 15 missions; and



1 WHEREAS, Buzz pursued his career in the Air Force by serving as an
2 Aerial Gunnery Instructor at Nellis Air Force Base, attending the Squadron
3 Officers' School at the Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, in
4 Alabama and flying F-100 aircraft as a Flight Commander with the 36th
5 Tactical Fighter Wing at Bitburg, Germany; and

6 WHEREAS, The desire to excel led him to the Massachusetts Institute of
7 Technology, where he earned a doctorate degree in astronautics in 1963;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, After completing an assignment in the Gemini Target Office
10 of the Air Force Space Systems Division in Los Angeles, California, Dr.
11 Aldrin was transferred to the United States Air Force Field Office at the
12 Manned Spacecraft Center, where he was introduced to the Gemini
13 program and worked on integrating experiments of the Department of
14 Defense with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA);
15 and

16 WHEREAS, In October 1963, the dream of a lifetime came true when
17 Buzz was accepted into NASA's astronaut program, and after 3 years of
18 training, he was launched into space on November 11, 1966, for a 4-day
19 flight with James Lovell aboard the *Gemini XII*; and

20 WHEREAS, On that flight, Colonel Aldrin set a new record for
21 extravehicular activity by spending more than 5 hours outside the
22 spacecraft, and because of problems with the radar, "Dr. Rendezvous"
23 cemented a second nickname by performing a successful docking
24 rendezvous using, for the first time ever, only the backup charts aboard the
25 spacecraft; and

26 WHEREAS, On July 20, 1969, Colonel Buzz Aldrin participated in the
27 unprecedented heroic event that was witnessed by the largest worldwide
28 television audience in history, as he stepped out of *Apollo XI* onto the
29 surface of the moon and stamped into millions of minds the lasting image
30 of an earthling in his space suit, facing the United States flag; and

31 WHEREAS, Colonel Aldrin has logged an incredible 4,500 hours of
32 flying time, of which 289 hours and 53 minutes were in space, including
33 extravehicular activity time of 7 hours and 52 minutes, and he has received
34 over 50 special honors, ranging from the Presidential Medal of Freedom to
35 the National Geographic Society's Hubbard Medal; and

36 WHEREAS, Buzz Aldrin is an accomplished author of four books and a
37 coauthor of two others, and he participates in many organizations, such as
38 the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Society of
39 Experimental Test Pilots, the International Academy of Astronautics and
40 Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society; and

41 WHEREAS, After retiring from the Air Force and NASA, Dr. Aldrin has
42 remained at the forefront of efforts to ensure a continued leading role for
43 America in manned space exploration, as evidenced by his development of
44 a master plan of evolving missions for sustained space exploration, his
45 patented design for a permanent space station, the founding of a company
46 that designs rockets and the establishment of a nonprofit foundation that is
47 devoted to opening the doors to space tourism for all; and

48 WHEREAS, Buzz Aldrin continues to quench his thirst for adventure
49 through such journeys as a trip to the North Pole and an 11-hour



1 underwater dive to observe the recovery attempt of part of the *Titanic*, and
2 as the new millennium beckons, his enthusiasm for such adventure is
3 transplanted into audiences all over the world when this well-loved,
4 enthralling international speaker motivates, captivates and entertains with
5 tales of his experiences; and

6 WHEREAS, Colonel Buzz Aldrin will honor Carson City with such a
7 speaking engagement on April 18, 2001, at the Carson City Community
8 Center to help raise money for the Jack C. Davis Observatory soon
9 scheduled for construction on the campus of Western Nevada Community
10 College in Carson City; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY
12 CONCURRING, That the members of the Nevada Legislature do hereby
13 commend Colonel Buzz Aldrin for his lifetime achievements that have
14 made him unquestionably one of the world's most dynamic forces in
15 aeronautics and space exploration; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That it is with great pride we welcome him to Carson City
17 and salute his efforts to make possible a new observatory where thousands
18 can study and be entranced with the beauties of space and heavenly bodies
19 that he has actually visited; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy
21 of this resolution to Buzz Aldrin.

