

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1052

Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space research, exploration,  
and utilization.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. GALLAGHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## RESOLUTION

Affirming United States-Australia cooperation on space  
research, exploration, and utilization.

Whereas the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Australia are treaty allies;

Whereas United States and Australia defense cooperation extends back 100 years, to the Battle of Hamel in World War I;

Whereas the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty, also referred to as the ANZUS Treaty, has formed the framework of the United States-Australia alliance since 1951;

Whereas the Australia-United States Ministerial Consultation, also referred to as AUSMIN, has contributed to a deeper partnership between the two nations;

Whereas the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) notes that, “The United States and Australia have been cooperating in civil space for more than 50 years”;

Whereas the United States Apollo missions and subsequent space science and exploration conducted by the United States benefitted greatly from the partnership with our Australian allies;

Whereas Neil Armstrong’s first steps on the surface of the Moon were relayed to Houston through the Honeysuckle Creek site in Australia;

Whereas NASA also notes that, “The Canberra complex is an integral component of NASA’s Deep Space Network (DSN), the world’s largest and most sensitive scientific telecommunications system”;

Whereas the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex (CDSCC) is one of NASA’s largest tracking and communication facilities outside the United States;

Whereas, on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, Australian Ambassador to the United States Joe Hockey and Acting NASA Administrator Robert Lightfoot signed a 25-year agreement for continued cooperation on space cooperation, including on space tracking;

Whereas the United States and Australian governments have jointly committed to expanding Space Situational Awareness (SSA);

Whereas United States-Australia cooperation on SSA is critical to maximize defense capabilities, monitoring environmental changes, avoiding space congestion and collisions, and protecting against exploitation from the growing counter-space capabilities of our adversaries;

Whereas, on September 24, 2017, the Government of Australia under Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull committed to creating the Australian Space Agency, with operations beginning on July 1, 2018; and

Whereas the Australian Space Agency commenced operations on July 1, 2018: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) commends the Australian Government in  
3       constituting the Australian Space Agency;

4               (2) recognizes the value in United States-Aus-  
5       tralia cooperation on space research, exploration,  
6       and utilization, including on terrestrial research,  
7       commercial activities, and human and robotic space  
8       exploration;

9               (3) supports international cooperation on space  
10      research, exploration, and utilization and other  
11      forms of space diplomacy as being in the national in-  
12      terest of the United States;

13              (4) encourages the Department of State to sup-  
14      port and facilitate international cooperation with  
15      Australia on space research, exploration, and utiliza-  
16      tion through diplomatic efforts, including through  
17      the Australia-United States Ministerial Consulta-  
18      tions (AUSMIN) forum and multilateral initiatives  
19      with Japan, Canada, the European Union, and other

1       partners of both the United States and Australia;  
2       and  
3       (5) supports deeper cooperation with our Aus-  
4       tralian allies in contributing each country's unique  
5       strengths and resources to mutual prosperity and se-  
6       curity.

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