

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R24-1056.01 Katelyn Guderian x3205

**SJR24-012**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Gardner and Bridges,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Armagost and Joseph,**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 24-012**

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 4, 2024, AS "COLORADO**  
102 **AEROSPACE DAY".**

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1           WHEREAS, Our nation and the world have significantly  
2 benefitted from technological and scientific advances resulting from  
3 space exploration and aerospace activities; and

4           WHEREAS, Colorado ranks first in the nation for aerospace  
5 employment concentration; and

6           WHEREAS, There are over 37,000 Coloradans who are directly  
7 employed in aerospace, with the aerospace cluster supporting over  
8 250,000 jobs; and

9           WHEREAS, Colorado is home to the nation's top aerospace

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

1 companies, including Ball Aerospace, Blue Origin, Boeing, L3Harris,  
2 Lockheed Martin Space, Maxar Technologies, Northrop Grumman,  
3 Raytheon, Sierra Space, and United Launch Alliance, and close to 500  
4 additional companies that support the aerospace sector by providing  
5 services and developing products, including spacecraft, launch vehicles,  
6 satellites, command and control software, sensors, and navigation  
7 operations; and

8 WHEREAS, Colorado is a strategic location for national space and  
9 cyber activity, with five key military commands: North American  
10 Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), the United States Northern  
11 Command, the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated  
12 Missile Defense, the United States Army Space and Missile Defense  
13 Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, and the permanent home of  
14 United States Space Command, and three space-related United States  
15 Space Force bases: Buckley, Peterson, and Schriever; and

16 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force Academy, along with  
17 Colorado's colleges and universities, including the University of Colorado  
18 Boulder, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Colorado School  
19 of Mines, Colorado State University, Metropolitan State University of  
20 Denver, University of Denver, Colorado Mesa University, and Fort Lewis  
21 College, provides access to world-class aerospace-related degrees and  
22 offers aerospace companies one of the country's most educated  
23 workforces; and

24 WHEREAS, Various organizations are key to Colorado's  
25 prominence in aerospace, such as the American Institute of Aeronautics  
26 and Astronautics, the world's largest aerospace technical society; the  
27 Colorado Space Coalition, a group of industry stakeholders working to  
28 grow and promote Colorado as a center of excellence for aerospace; the  
29 Colorado chapter of Citizens for Space Exploration, housed within the  
30 Colorado Business Roundtable, whose mission is to promote better  
31 understanding of aerospace and its importance in our economy and daily  
32 lives, as well as promoting the importance of human space exploration;  
33 and the Colorado Space Business Roundtable, an organization that works  
34 to convene stakeholders from industry, government, and academia to  
35 advance aerospace business and workforce opportunities throughout the  
36 state. Together, these organizations form the Colorado chapter of the  
37 Aerospace States Association, a nonpartisan organization of lieutenant  
38 governors and associate members from aerospace organizations and  
39 academia who represent states' interests in federal aerospace and aviation

1 policy development, currently led by Colorado Lieutenant Governor  
2 Dianne Primavera; and

3 WHEREAS, The Colorado Air and Space Port seeks to serve as  
4 America's hub for commercial space transportation, research, and  
5 development. This horizontal launch facility will have the potential to  
6 become the foundation for a global suborbital transportation network  
7 connecting Colorado globally; now, therefore,

8 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General*  
9 *Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives*  
10 *concurring herein:*

11 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

12 (1) Strongly urge and request the government of the United States  
13 of America to take action to preserve and enhance American leadership  
14 in space, spur innovation, and ensure our continued national and  
15 economic security by increasing funding for space exploration and  
16 activities;

17 (2) Congratulate NASA and Lockheed Martin Space on the return  
18 of its mission OSIRIS-ReX to earth on September 24, 2023, after its  
19 six-year journey from Bennu with the first-ever sample return from an  
20 asteroid;

21 (3) Recognize and appreciate the Colorado companies, including  
22 Ball Aerospace, Boeing, Lockheed Martin Space, Northrop Grumman,  
23 Raytheon, United Launch Alliance, and others, that are key to enabling  
24 human exploration throughout our solar system, supporting NASA's  
25 Artemis Program to take humans to the moon and beyond. These  
26 companies' work continues to expand our understanding of the universe,  
27 enabling a new generation of groundbreaking research with innovations  
28 like the James Webb Space Telescope, and will help lead the way in the  
29 search for life beyond our planet with the Habitable Worlds Observatory;

30 (4) Recognize and appreciate the exciting new innovations such  
31 as the successful inaugural flight of the United Launch Alliance Vulcan  
32 Centaur Rocket on January 8, 2024, as well as the upcoming inaugural  
33 flight of Boeing's CST-100 Starliner Crew Test Flight to the International  
34 Space Station and the upcoming inaugural flight of the Sierra Space  
35 Dream Chaser, the world's only winged commercial spaceplane, to the

1 International Space Station, both of which will launch on a United  
2 Launch Alliance rocket; and

3 (5) Hereby declare March 4, 2024, to be "Colorado Aerospace  
4 Day".

5 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
6 to President Joseph Biden, Jr.; Vice President Kamala Harris; Speaker of  
7 the House of Representatives Mike Johnson; House Minority Leader  
8 Hakeem Jeffries; Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer; Senate  
9 Minority Leader Mitch McConnell; Senator John Hickenlooper; Senator  
10 Michael Bennet; Congresswoman Diana DeGette; Congressman Joe  
11 Neguse; Congresswoman Lauren Boebert; Congressman Ken Buck;  
12 Congressman Doug Lamborn; Congressman Jason Crow;  
13 Congresswoman Brittany Pettersen; Congresswoman Yadira Caraveo;  
14 Bill Nelson, NASA Administrator; Michael Whitaker, Administrator,  
15 Federal Aviation Administration; Governor Jared Polis; Lieutenant  
16 Governor and Co-chair, Colorado Space Coalition, Dianne Primavera;  
17 Brigadier General Laura Clellan, The Adjutant General of Colorado;  
18 General Stephen N. Whiting, Commander, U.S. Space Command;  
19 Colonel Marcus Jackson, Buckley Garrison Commander, Buckley Space  
20 Force Base; Dr. Christopher Scolese, Director, National Reconnaissance  
21 Office; Ross B. Garelick Bell, Executive Director, Aerospace States  
22 Association; Heather Pringle, Chief Executive Officer, Space Foundation;  
23 Dr. Ronald M. Sega, Co-chair, Colorado Space Coalition; Michael Gass,  
24 Co-chair, Colorado Space Coalition; Debra Wilcox, Chair, Colorado  
25 Space Business Roundtable; Christie Lee and Stacey DeFore, Co-chairs,  
26 Colorado Citizens for Space Exploration; Marshall Lee, Chair, AIAA  
27 Rocky Mountain Section; Jeff Kloska, Director, Colorado Air and Space  
28 Port; and Debbie Brown, President, Colorado Business Roundtable.