

As Introduced

**128th General Assembly
Regular Session
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S. C. R. No. 28

Senator Widener

**Cosponsors: Senators Buehrer, Carey, Coughlin, Faber, Gibbs, Gillmor,
Goodman, Grendell, Harris, Hughes, Husted, Jones, Kearney, Miller, R.,
Morano, Niehaus, Patton, Sawyer, Schaffer, Schiavoni, Schuring, Seitz,
Strahorn, Stewart, Wagoner, Wilson, Miller, D.**

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the President of the United States and the 1
Administrator of the National Aeronautics and 2
Space Administration to select the National Museum 3
of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson 4
Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio for public 5
display of a space shuttle orbiter. 6

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, The National Aeronautics and Space Administration 7
(NASA) intends to select a limited number of museums for the 8
display of the space shuttle orbiters that will be retired at the 9
conclusion of the space shuttle program. The National Museum of 10
the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base 11
near Dayton, Ohio would be an excellent choice for the display of 12
a space shuttle orbiter; and 13

WHEREAS, The Museum, the world's oldest and largest museum of 14
military aviation, is the depository for the Air Force's National 15
Historical Collection and features more than 400 aerospace 16
vehicles, including Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo space capsules. 17

With 1.3 million visitors each year, the Museum is the most 18
visited free tourist destination in Ohio and is one of the most 19
visited in the country; and 20

WHEREAS, The Museum is ready to accommodate a space shuttle 21
orbiter with one million square feet of climate-controlled exhibit 22
space and an adjacent runway that is approved for a landing of the 23
shuttle carrier aircraft with a shuttle. In addition, the Museum 24
employs professional aerospace vehicle restoration staff who are 25
experienced in working with hazardous aerospace materials such as 26
those found on the shuttle and who will ensure the preservation of 27
the shuttle to the highest museum standards; and 28

WHEREAS, The Museum is located near Dayton, Ohio, the 29
birthplace of aviation and the home of the Wright Brothers, and in 30
the National Aviation Heritage Area, an area designated by 31
Congress that includes the Armstrong Air and Space Museum, Dayton 32
Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and National Aviation 33
Hall of Fame. Finally, the Museum is easily accessible from major 34
population centers and is within a 600-mile radius of 61% of the 35
United States population; and 36

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense, especially the Department 37
of the Air Force, collaborated extensively with NASA's space 38
shuttle program, including influencing the basic shuttle design, 39
providing many highly skilled shuttle astronauts, and saving the 40
program in lean budget years during its development; and 41

WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Air Force has requested that 42
the NASA Administrator transfer a space shuttle orbiter to the Air 43
Force for placement in the Air Force's National Historical 44
Collection through interagency transfer using existing statutes 45
and regulations. This transfer will ensure that a taxpayer-funded 46
space shuttle orbiter will be kept under the ownership and 47
stewardship of the United States government and the American 48
people; now therefore be it 49

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 128th General Assembly 50
of the State of Ohio, conclude that it is in the interest of the 51
American people for a retired space shuttle orbiter to be 52
preserved and exhibited at the National Museum of the United 53
States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, 54
Ohio; and be it further 55

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 128th General Assembly 56
of the State of Ohio, urge the President of the United States and 57
the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space 58
Administration (NASA) to honor the request of the Department of 59
the Air Force for an interagency transfer of an operational space 60
shuttle orbiter so that it can be displayed at the National Museum 61
of the United States Air Force as a national tribute to the 62
American spirit of space exploration and to the indelible 63
partnership between NASA and the Department of the Air Force, 64
which helped make the space shuttle program possible; and be it 65
further 66

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 67
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the 68
United States, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and 69
Space Administration, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States 70
House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary 71
of the United States Senate, the members of the Ohio Congressional 72
delegation, and the news media of Ohio. 73