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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Apollo 11 spacecraft was launched from Cape Kennedy on July 16, 1969 and was the first manned mission to land on the Moon; the first steps by humans on another celestial body were taken by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin on July 20, 1969; Apollo 11 achieved its primary mission, performing a manned lunar landing and returning safely to Earth; and

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WHEREAS, Photographs taken from lunar orbit provided broad views for the study of regional lunar geology; the planned sequence of activities included deployment of a Solar Wind Composition (SWC) experiment, collection of a larger sample of lunar material, panoramic photographs of the region near the landing site and the lunar horizon, close-up photographs of in-place lunar surface material, deployment of a Laser-Ranging Retroreflector (LRRR) and a Passive Seismic Experiment Package (PSEP), and collection of two core-tube samples of the lunar surface; the astronauts returned to Earth with the first samples from another planetary body; and

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WHEREAS, The Apollo 11 mission carried to the moon American flags, the flags of the 50 states, including Illinois, and the District of Columbia, the flags of the U.S. Territories, the United Nations, and other nations; a plaque with the signatures

1 of President Richard Nixon, Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins,
2 and Buzz Aldrin was affixed to the leg of the lunar landing;
3 the plaque bears two images of the Earth and the inscription,
4 "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon
5 July 1969 A.D. We came in peace for all mankind"; and

6 WHEREAS, On July 20, 1969, Commander Neil Armstrong and
7 Lunar Module Pilot Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon while Command
8 Module Pilot Michael Collins orbited above them; Commander
9 Armstrong was the first to walk on the surface of the moon, and
10 when he took his first footstep, he declared that it was "one
11 small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind", a famous
12 line that has inspired many and has passed into history; and

13 WHEREAS, The lunar landing program was the culmination of
14 decades of work by hundreds of thousands of people working
15 across dozens of science, technology, and engineering
16 disciplines; it has been estimated that over 400,000 engineers,
17 scientists, and technicians contributed to the moon landing
18 mission; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1973, the total cost of the Apollo program
20 reported to Congress was \$25.4 billion, approximately \$183
21 billion in today's terms, which was paid for by American
22 taxpayers; and

1 WHEREAS, Apollo 11 paved the way for the Apollo lunar
2 landing missions to follow; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare July 20,
5 2019 Apollo 11 Day in the State of Illinois to commemorate the
6 50 year anniversary of the United States' first manned lunar
7 landing and return.