

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2572

AN ACT

To direct the Administrator of NASA to design and
present an award to the Apollo astronauts.

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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Apollo Exploration
3 Award Act of 2000”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) On July 20, 1969, Neil A. Armstrong and
7 Edwin E. “Buzz” Aldrin Jr., became the first hu-
8 mans to set foot on another celestial body, during
9 the Apollo 11 mission, accompanied in lunar orbit by
10 Michael Collins.

11 (2) Between 1969 and 1972, ten other Ameri-
12 cans courageously completed the first human explo-
13 ration of the lunar surface, accompanied by five
14 command module pilots:

15 (A) Apollo 12—Charles J. “Pete” Conrad
16 Jr., Alan L. Bean, and Richard F. Gordon Jr.

17 (B) Apollo 14—Alan B. Shepard Jr.,
18 Edgar D. Mitchell, and Stuart A. Roosa.

19 (C) Apollo 15—David R. Scott, James B.
20 Irwin, and Alfred M. Worden.

21 (D) Apollo 16—John W. Young, Charles
22 M. Duke Jr., and Thomas K. Mattingly II.

23 (E) Apollo 17—Eugene A. Cernan, Ronald
24 E. Evans, and Harrison H. Schmitt.

25 (3) In April 1970, James A. Lovell Jr., John
26 L. Swigert Jr., and Fred W. Haise Jr., valiantly

1 made a safe return from the Moon on the Apollo 13
2 mission, after their command module was disabled
3 by an explosion.

4 (4) The enormous successes of the Apollo lunar
5 landing missions were only possible due to the pio-
6 neering work of the previous Apollo missions, which
7 performed critical testing of the spacecraft and
8 methods, and conducted the first human travel to
9 the Moon:

10 (A) Apollo 7—Walter M. Schirra Jr.,
11 Donn F. Eisele, and R. Walter Cunningham.

12 (B) Apollo 8—Frank Borman, James A.
13 Lovell Jr., and William A. Anders.

14 (C) Apollo 9—James A. McDivitt, David
15 R. Scott, and Russell L. Schweickart.

16 (D) Apollo 10—Thomas P. Stafford, John
17 W. Young, and Eugene A. Cernan.

18 (5) In January 1967, astronauts Virgil I.
19 Grissom, Edward H. White, and Roger B. Chaffee
20 lost their lives in a tragic fire in the command mod-
21 ule while testing the spacecraft which would have
22 carried them on the first manned Apollo mission.

23 (6) Since the time of the Apollo program, the
24 program's astronauts have promoted space explo-
25 ration and human endeavor by sharing their experi-

1 ences with the American people and the world, stim-
2 ulating the imagination and the belief that any goal
3 can be achieved.

4 (7) Sadly, astronauts John L. Swigert Jr.,
5 Donn F. Eisele, Ronald E. Evans, James B. Irwin,
6 Stuart A. Roosa, Alan B. Shepard Jr., and Charles
7 J. “Pete” Conrad Jr., have died since completing
8 their missions.

9 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

10 It is the sense of the Congress that the American peo-
11 ple should provide a fitting and tangible tribute to each
12 of the astronauts of the Apollo program, to recognize and
13 commemorate their bravery, substantial scientific and
14 technical accomplishments, and unique contributions to
15 American and world history.

16 **SEC. 4. APOLLO EXPLORATION AWARD.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
18 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration (hereafter in
19 this Act referred to as the “Administrator”) shall design
20 and present an appropriate award, to be named the “Apol-
21 lo Exploration Award”, commemorating the accomplish-
22 ments of the astronauts who flew in the Apollo program.

23 (b) DESIGN.—The Administrator shall ensure that
24 the Apollo Exploration Award shall have the following
25 characteristics:

1 (1) A lunar rock sample shall be the central
2 feature of the award.

3 (2) The design of the award shall permit free
4 access to and removal of the lunar sample by the
5 award recipient.

6 (c) PRESENTATION.—The Administrator shall
7 present one award created under this Act to each of the
8 following Apollo astronauts, or if such person is deceased,
9 to his closest living family member or heir (as determined
10 by the Administrator):

11 (1) Buzz Aldrin (formerly known as Edwin E.
12 Aldrin Jr.) of Apollo 11.

13 (2) William A. Anders of Apollo 8.

14 (3) Neil A. Armstrong of Apollo 11.

15 (4) Alan L. Bean of Apollo 12.

16 (5) Frank Borman of Apollo 8.

17 (6) Eugene A. Cernan of Apollo 10 and Apollo
18 17.

19 (7) Roger B. Chafee of Apollo 1.

20 (8) Michael Collins of Apollo 11.

21 (9) Charles J. “Pete” Conrad Jr. of Apollo 12.

22 (10) R. Walter Cunningham of Apollo 7.

23 (11) Charles M. Duke Jr. of Apollo 16.

24 (12) Donn F. Eisele of Apollo 7.

25 (13) Ronald E. Evans of Apollo 17.

- 1 (14) Richard F. Gordon Jr. of Apollo 12.
2 (15) Virgil I. Grissom of Apollo 1.
3 (16) Fred W. Haise Jr. of Apollo 13.
4 (17) James B. Irwin of Apollo 15.
5 (18) James A. Lovell Jr. of Apollo 8 and Apollo
6 13.
7 (19) Thomas K. Mattingly II of Apollo 16.
8 (20) James A. McDivitt of Apollo 9.
9 (21) Edgar D. Mitchell of Apollo 14.
10 (22) Stuart A. Roosa of Apollo 14.
11 (23) Walter M. Schirra Jr. of Apollo 7.
12 (24) Harrison H. Schmitt of Apollo 17.
13 (25) Russell L. Schweickart of Apollo 9.
14 (26) David R. Scott of Apollo 9 and Apollo 15.
15 (27) Alan B. Shepard Jr. of Apollo 14.
16 (28) Thomas P. Stafford of Apollo 10.
17 (29) John L. Swigert Jr. of Apollo 13.
18 (30) Edward H. White of Apollo 1.
19 (31) Alfred M. Worden of Apollo 15.
20 (32) John W. Young of Apollo 10 and Apollo
21 16.

22 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON PROFIT.**

23 No person may use an award presented under this
24 Act for monetary gain or profit.

1 **SEC. 6. TRANSFER OF AWARD.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
3 sion of law, ownership interest in an award presented
4 under this Act may not be—

5 (1) sold, traded, bartered, or exchanged for
6 anything of value; or

7 (2) otherwise transferred, other than to a fam-
8 ily member of the original recipient of the award or
9 by inheritance.

10 (b) EXCEPTION FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY.—The prohibi-
11 tion in subsection (a) does not apply to a transfer to a
12 museum or nonprofit organization for the purpose of pub-
13 lic display.

14 (c) REVERSION.—Ownership of an award presented
15 under this Act reverts to the Administrator if—

16 (1) no person inherits the award after the death
17 of its owner; or

18 (2) the award is not being displayed publicly
19 under subsection (b).

20 **SEC. 7. RECALL OF LUNAR MATERIAL.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may recall a
22 lunar sample contained in an award presented under this
23 Act if the Administrator determines that the particular
24 lunar sample is required for scientific purposes.

25 (b) PROMPT RETURN.—The Administrator shall
26 promptly return a lunar sample recalled under subsection

1 (a) to its owner when such sample is no longer required
2 for scientific purposes.

3 (c) REPLACEMENT.—The Administrator may replace
4 a lunar sample recalled under subsection (a) with a sub-
5 stantially equivalent lunar sample if the Administrator de-
6 termines that such recalled lunar sample will not be
7 promptly returned in its entirety and without substantial
8 degradation.

Passed the House of Representatives September 26,
2000.

Attest:

Clerk.