



HR0512

LRB104 15867 ECR 29086 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Hailing from Savanna, Illinois, Major Cameron
3 Jones of the United States Air Force submitted his name as one
4 of over 8,000 applicants for the available slots opened by the
5 United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration
6 (NASA) in 2025; and

7 WHEREAS, From this significant pool of talented,
8 forward-looking Americans, only ten men and women were
9 selected; and

10 WHEREAS, Major Jones was one of the ten people selected
11 from this pool of over 8,000 applicants; and

12 WHEREAS, Illinois-trained as well as native-born, Major
13 Jones earned bachelor's and master's degrees in aerospace
14 engineering from the Granger College of Engineering at the
15 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC); and

16 WHEREAS, As a member of the U.S. Air Force, Major Jones
17 compiled more than 1,600 flight hours, including 150 hours
18 classified as combat hours, in more than 30 types of aircraft
19 headed by the F-22 Raptor, and he was promoted to the rank of
20 Major; and

1 WHEREAS, Major Jones was selected to attend the U.S. Air
2 Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base (Edwards
3 AFB) in California, and he experienced further training and
4 leadership at the U.S. Air Force Weapons School at Nellis Air
5 Force Base (Nellis AFB) in Nevada; and

6 WHEREAS, Major Jones' selection as one of the ten
7 astronaut candidates of NASA's Class of September 2025 was
8 announced on Monday, September 22 at the Johnson Space Center
9 in Houston, Texas; and

10 WHEREAS, As a U.S. Air Force test pilot, Major Jones will
11 follow a well-trodden path into the United States space
12 program; legendary American astronauts, including John Glenn,
13 Neil Armstrong, and Illinois' Jim Lovell, were U.S. Navy and
14 U.S. Air Force test pilots before moving into America's final
15 frontier; and

16 WHEREAS, As an astronaut candidate selected in NASA's
17 Class of 2025, Major Jones will start what will be nearly two
18 years of additional training before flight eligibility begins,
19 with the astronaut candidates studying robotics, land and
20 water survival, geology, space medicine, high-performance
21 aircraft training, and simulated space-experience training;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, Major Jones has become one of roughly 370 people
2 who have been selected as NASA astronaut candidates over the
3 life of the program, which officially began in October 1958;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Major Jones is the second NASA astronaut
6 candidate to be chosen from Savanna, Illinois, with the first
7 selectee being Dale Gardner, chosen in January 1978 and then
8 named to serve on the Space Shuttle flights STS-8 in 1983 and
9 STS-51-A in 1984; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we extend warm congratulations to Major Cameron Jones of the
13 United States Air Force on his selection as a 2025 astronaut
14 candidate by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space
15 Administration (NASA); and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the thoughts of the Illinois House are with
17 Major Jones as he undergoes the further grueling training
18 necessary as the future flight crews are selected by NASA for
19 future American missions into space; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we look forward to seeing the name of
21 Illinois' Major Jones on the news wires of the world as he
22 flies above it; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 presented to Major Jones of the United States Air Force and
3 NASA as a symbol of our esteem and respect.