



HR0443

LRB104 14807 LAW 27950 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Captain
4 James Arthur "Jim" Lovell Jr., USN (Ret.), who passed away on
5 August 7, 2025; and

6 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell, born on March 25, 1928, was a
7 decorated naval officer and a pioneer in human space
8 exploration, becoming one of NASA's most experienced
9 astronauts; in the course of his four space missions, he
10 helped guide the trajectory of spaceflight history; and

11 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell and Frank Borman set a new endurance
12 record in space on Gemini 7 from December 4 to December 18,
13 1965, undergoing nearly 14 days in orbit and proving that
14 humans could survive long-duration missions necessary for
15 future moon landings; and

16 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell served as pilot of Gemini 12 from
17 November 11 to November 15, 1966, during which he successfully
18 conducted complex spacewalks, demonstrating critical
19 techniques that paved the way for the Apollo missions'
20 success; and

21 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell served as command module pilot on

1 Apollo 8 from December 21 to December 27, 1968, the first
2 mission to orbit the Moon, marking the first time humans left
3 Earth's orbit, and this space mission became further known for
4 capturing iconic images of the Earth and Moon and opening the
5 path to lunar landing; and

6 WHEREAS, Most famously, as commander of Apollo 13, which
7 launched on April 11, 1970, Jim Lovell led his crew through a
8 life-threatening mission crisis following an onboard oxygen
9 tank explosion on April 13, 1970; while expertly coordinating
10 with NASA teams on the ground to safely bring his crew home, he
11 showcased resilience, problem-solving, and teamwork under
12 pressure, leading to Apollo 13's return on April 17, 1970; and

13 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell, after leading a distinguished career
14 that helped establish the United States as a leader in space
15 exploration during the space race, retired from NASA in July
16 1973; through his work, he inspired generations to pursue
17 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

18 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell was a longtime resident of Lake Forest
19 since the early 1980s, where he was respected not only for his
20 historic contributions to spaceflight but also for his
21 character and community engagement; and

22 WHEREAS, Jim Lovell will be remembered for his

1 groundbreaking achievements in space exploration, his
2 exemplary leadership in moments of crisis, and his lasting
3 legacy that continues to inspire people around the world;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
6 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we mourn the passing of Captain James Arthur "Jim" Lovell Jr.,
8 USN (Ret.) and extend our sincere condolences to his family,
9 friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the family of Jim Lovell as an expression of our
12 deepest sympathy.