

tab led by Rep. Long
April 17, 1990

A.B. 51 Texas Space Day

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**ALLOCATING MONIES FROM SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR UTSEDS FOR TEXAS
SPACE DAY, AND THEREFORE**

Be it enacted by the Student Assembly of the University of Texas that:

SECTION I: The Students' Association will allocate \$780 from Special Projects for UTSEDS for Texas Space Day.

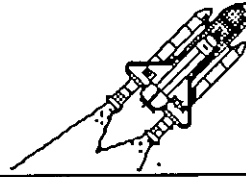
SECTION II: Any money not used for the above event will revert back into Special Projects Fund.

SPONSORED BY REPRESENTATIVES KNOX AND LONG

TEXAS SPACE DAY
BUDGET

Advertising	Buttons, Posters, and Flyers	30.00
Travel	Washington D.C.	500.00
	Houston	150.00
	Hotel 50 X 2 =	<u>100.00</u>
		780.00

UTSEDS



Students for the Exploration and Development of Space

TEXAS SPACE DAY

April 12, 1990

"The Fourth Decade of Man in Space"

Dear Ms. Knox and Students Association Members,

The UT Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (UTSEDS), is a student group that is dedicated to the promotion of the exploration of space through education and involvement, in both the University, and the Austin communities. We've been on campus since 1983, and have engaged in many projects and activities on campus, and around Austin. We are sponsored heartily by the UT Astronomy Department, and are fairly well known around campus by both students and professors. We are a non-technical group, open to all students, and we are dedicated to providing an access to the informal space field through films, lectures and field trips. We are the only UT-sponsored, student-run, informal space society in Austin. We are here to provide a viable, educational service to the students of the University, as well as the residents of Austin. To provide this service we utilize many tools, such as membership tables on the West Mall, articles in the Daily Texan, announcements in the Around Campus section, announcements on Austin Access TV, flyers, posters, etc.

Also, we occasionally sponsor "Special Events" which promote the exploration of space, and provide an educational service for everyone. An example of this is our recent "Challenger Memorial Lecture", (*Daily Texan*, Jan. 30), where UT system chancellor, and former NASA administrator, Dr. Hans Mark lectured us on his involvement with pre- and post-Challenger NASA. This event is an annual event, and in the past, UT astronomer - astronaut Karl Henize has also been a speaker. Another "Special Event" designed toward the same purpose is "TEXAS SPACE DAY".

This fledgling project is only in its second year, but is receiving the most excitement and involvement. The idea for "Texas Space Day" was born out of our involvement with Sen. J.E. "Buster" Brown and his staff who were working on a piece of Space Legislation for the Texas Senate. Sen. Brown is the chairman of the Texas Space Commission and is now engaged in a race for Attorney General. UTSEDS was called in, by Brown, as consultants for this space legislature, and worked closely with Sen. Brown's

staff for several weeks. We were also presented with the opportunity to make our plans for a "Texas Space Day" a Senate Resolution. Sen. Brown eagerly sponsored the resolution and on March 30th, 1989, in a presentation ceremony on the Senate floor, the "Texas Space Day" resolution was passed unanimously. "Texas Space Day" commemorates the launching of the first human into space, Yuri Gagarin - April 12, 1961, and the first U.S. shuttle launch on April 12, 1981. Both of these events are extremely significant for obvious reasons. Gagarin's launch began the era of human space exploration, and the first Shuttle flight began the era of human work in space. It celebrates a U.S. and Soviet event, which is even more appropriate in this age of international co-operation. For Texas, space exploration is extremely important because, through it, Texas would receive it's first major technical industry. With the establishment of Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas began to modernize its economy, eventually leading away from dependency on oil and gas, to including the field of high-technology industries. Now Texas is seen as a leader in communications, computer technology, and scientific studies, so recently seen in Texas's acquisition of the Superconducting Super Collider. Texas will be playing an even more important role in the field of space industry in the future. It is for this reason that the people of Texas must understand the important role their state will play in the future of space exploration. UTSEDS hopes to further that understanding through such events as "Texas Space Day".

Current plans for "Texas Space Day" include bringing one or several Astronauts to campus for lectures, and in some way involving the Austin-area primary schools. Sen. Brown may also give a lecture. There is a possibility of a rally on the steps of the Capitol with Austin schoolchildren. We expect city-wide, if not state-wide coverage. The resolution itself received coverage in Austin and Dallas papers. But, of course, it all requires funding. UTSEDS is supported solely through our own fundraisers, as our sponsoring department, like others, is strapped for funds. Most of the required funding will be for the transportation costs of the Astronauts and other speakers. The rest will go towards promotion in the form of flyers, posters, buttons etc. The aforementioned travel costs are uncertain, so its possible that much of the funding may be returned, if that's possible.

I urge you that "Texas Space Day" is extremely important, and hope for your support.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Loeffler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Dallas Loeffler
President, UTSEDS