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BOXER STATEMENT ON NASA DECISION TO PERMANENTLY DISPLAY SPACE SHUTTLE ENDEAVOUR IN CALIFORNIA

California Science Center of Los Angeles Competed with More Than
Twenty Sites Nationwide

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) praised the announcement today by NASA Administrator Charles F. Bolden, Jr. that the Space Shuttle Endeavour will be permanently displayed at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

Senator Boxer said, "I am excited that NASA has announced that the Space Shuttle Endeavour will be permanently displayed at the California Science Center. California has a long history of supporting the shuttle program and we are proud to welcome this inspiring symbol of American scientific achievement and ingenuity to the Golden State."

In 2008, NASA announced a national competition among museums and science centers for the right to permanently display one of the retiring space shuttles. The California Science Center competed with more than twenty other institutions nationwide. Other winners include the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City and the Smithsonian Institution's Udvar-Hazy Center in Virginia.

Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein wrote to Administrator Bolden in July 2010 requesting that California receive one of the shuttles. A copy of the letter is available [here](#).

California has a long history with the shuttle program. Beginning in 1972, all five space shuttle orbiters were fabricated in Downey, California and assembled in Palmdale, California. All of the space shuttles were tested at Edwards Air Force Base just outside of Palmdale, which also served as the secondary landing site to Kennedy Space Center in Florida and has welcomed home 53 of NASA's 133 shuttle missions. Space Shuttle Endeavour will take its final flight on STS-134, scheduled for launch on April 29, 2011. Prior to this mission, Endeavour will have been used on 24 missions, orbited the Earth 4,429 times and traveled 103,149,636 miles.