1
00:00:00,710 --> 00:00:21,640
Thats one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind
[Music]

2
00:00:21,640 --> 00:00:29,720
[Applause]

3
00:00:29,720 --> 00:00:40,289
[Music]
My fellow Americans this week in the

4
00:00:40,289 --> 00:00:46,000
company of astronauts, I was honored to
sign the NASA transition authorization

5
00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:52,690
act right into law. With this legislation
we renew our national commitment to

6
00:00:52,690 --> 00:00:58,730
NASA's mission of exploration and
discovery, and we continue a tradition

7
00:00:58,730 --> 00:01:07,240
that is as old as mankind: we look to the
heavens with wonder and curiosity . More

8
00:01:07,240 --> 00:01:12,710
than two decades ago, one scientist
followed this curiosity and dramatically

9
00:01:12,710 --> 00:01:17,880
changed our understanding of the
universe. The year was nineteen

10
00:01:17,880 --> 00:01:22,810
ninety-five. Taxpayers were spending
billions and billions of dollars on

11

00:01:22,810 --> 00:01:29,200
NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. The
astronomer in charge had a novel idea: he

12
00:01:29,200 --> 00:01:34,770
wanted to use the expensive telescope in
a totally unconventional way. Instead of

13
00:01:34,770 --> 00:01:40,479
pointing Hubble's eye at nearby stars for
distant formations, Robert Williams

14
00:01:40,479 --> 00:01:45,590
wanted to peer into the void. He aimed
the massive telescope at one of the

15
00:01:45,590 --> 00:01:52,369
emptiest regions of the night sky. For
10 days during Christmas of 1995, Hubble

16
00:01:52,369 --> 00:01:58,070
stared into the abyss, seeking whatever
light it could glean from the darkness,

17
00:01:58,070 --> 00:02:03,430
and it was total darkness. Fellow
astronomers didn't know if he see much

18
00:02:03,430 --> 00:02:08,479
of anything, but Williams was rewarded
and the entire world was struck by the

19
00:02:08,479 --> 00:02:15,120
awesome images of our satellite returned.
In that tiny patch of sky, the Hubble

20
00:02:15,120 --> 00:02:21,990
Deep Field showed thousands of lights.
Each brilliant spot represented not a

21

00:02:21,990 --> 00:02:29,410
single star but an entire galaxy. The
discovery was absolutely incredible, but

22
00:02:29,410 --> 00:02:34,210
the unforgettable image did not satisfy
our deep hunger for knowledge. It

23
00:02:34,210 --> 00:02:40,220
increased ever more and even more and
reminded us how much we do not know

24
00:02:40,220 --> 00:02:45,560
about space, (and) frankly how much we do not
know about life.

25
00:02:45,560 --> 00:02:53,870
[Music]
With this week's massive reauthorization

26
00:02:53,870 --> 00:02:59,090
we continue progress on Hubble's
successor: the James Webb Space

27
00:02:59,090 --> 00:03:06,010
Telescope. It is amazing. The Webb
telescope is set to launch next year. It

28
00:03:06,010 --> 00:03:11,970
will gaze back through time and space to
the very first stars and the earliest

29
00:03:11,970 --> 00:03:16,760
galaxies in the universe, We can only
imagine what incredible visions it

30
00:03:16,760 --> 00:03:21,510
will bring. At a time when Washington is
consumed with a daily debates of our

31

00:03:21,510 --> 00:03:27,000
nation, I was proud that Congress came
together overwhelmingly to reaffirm our

32
00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:32,200
nation's commitment to expanding the
frontiers of knowledge. NASA's greatest

33
00:03:32,200 --> 00:03:38,340
discoveries teach us many, many things.
One lesson is the need to view all

34
00:03:38,340 --> 00:03:44,390
questions with fresh eyes; to have the
courage to look for answers in places we

35
00:03:44,390 --> 00:03:49,850
have never looked before; to think in new
ways because we have new information.

36
00:03:49,850 --> 00:03:55,840
Most of all new discoveries remind us
that in America anything is possible if

37
00:03:55,840 --> 00:04:01,301
we have the courage and wisdom to learn.
In the span of one lifetime, our nation

38
00:04:01,301 --> 00:04:06,260
went from black-and-white pictures of
the first airplane to beautiful images

39
00:04:06,260 --> 00:04:12,230
of the oldest galaxy captured by a
camera in outer space. I am confident

40
00:04:12,230 --> 00:04:16,660
that if Americans can achieve these
things, there was no problem we cannot

41

00:04:16,660 --> 00:04:22,240
solve, there is no challenge we cannot meet, there is no aim that is too high.

42
00:04:22,240 --> 00:04:26,889
Whatever it takes and however long it will be, we are a nation of problem