

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5503

To authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2018

Mr. BABIN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. NORMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2018 and 2019, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “National Aeronautics and Space Administration Author-
6 ization Act of 2018”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
8 this Act is the following:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. Fiscal year 2018.

Sec. 102. Fiscal year 2019.

TITLE II—HUMAN EXPLORATION

Sec. 201. Space facilities beyond low-Earth orbit.

Sec. 202. ISS transition.

Sec. 203. Human spaceflight research.

Sec. 204. Critical path redundancy for human spaceflight.

Sec. 205. Space suits.

TITLE III—SCIENCE

Subtitle A—Earth Science

Sec. 301. Reimbursable basis for development of sensors and instruments.

Sec. 302. Earth observations study.

Sec. 303. Land imaging.

Sec. 304. Landsat data policy.

Sec. 305. Earth science missions.

Sec. 306. Goddard Institute for Space Studies Inspector General report.

Subtitle B—Astronomy and Astrophysics

Sec. 311. Search for the origin, evolution, distribution, and future of life in the universe.

Sec. 312. Wide-Field Infrared Space Telescope.

Subtitle C—Planetary Science

Sec. 321. Near-Earth Object Survey.

Sec. 322. Space nuclear power.

TITLE IV—AERONAUTICS

Sec. 401. Supersonic research.

Sec. 402. Unmanned aircraft systems research.

Sec. 403. 21st Century Aeronautics Research Capabilities Initiative.

Sec. 404. Experimental plane program.

Sec. 405. Hypersonic Technology project.

TITLE V—COMMERCIAL

Sec. 501. Commercial supply of space products.

Sec. 502. Commercial provision of services.

Sec. 503. Commercial in-space infrastructure.

Sec. 504. Preference for launch vehicles manufactured in the United States.

Sec. 505. Studies on industrial base.

Sec. 506. Spectrum coordination.

Sec. 507. Enhanced-use leasing.

Sec. 508. Satellite servicing technologies.

TITLE VI—POLICY

Sec. 601. NASA-funded institutes.

Sec. 602. Baseline and cost controls.
Sec. 603. Reports to Congress.
Sec. 604. International technical and operational standards.
Sec. 605. NASA contractor responsibility watch list.
Sec. 606. Human space exploration risk.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
4 trator” means the Administrator of NASA.

5 (2) CIS-LUNAR SPACE.—The term “cis-lunar
6 space” means the region of space from the Earth
7 out to and including the region around the surface
8 of the Moon.

9 (3) ISS.—The term “ISS” means the Inter-
10 national Space Station.

11 (4) NASA.—The term “NASA” means the Na-
12 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration.

13 (5) NEAR-EARTH ASTEROID.—The term “near-
14 Earth asteroid” means an asteroid with a perihelion
15 distance of less than 1.3 Astronomical Units from
16 the Sun.

17 (6) NEAR-EARTH OBJECT.—The term “near-
18 Earth object” means an asteroid or comet with a
19 perihelion distance of less than 1.3 Astronomical
20 Units from the Sun.

21 (7) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term
22 “nonprofit organization” means an organization de-
23 termined by the Secretary of the Treasury to be an

1 organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the
2 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.
3 501(c)(3)) which is exempt from taxation under sec-
4 tion 501(a) of such Code.

5 (8) ORION.—The term “Orion” means the mul-
6 tipurpose crew vehicle described under section 303
7 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administra-
8 tion Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18323).

9 (9) SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM.—The term “Space
10 Launch System” has the meaning given the term in
11 section 3 of the National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
12 ministration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C.
13 18302).

14 **TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF** 15 **APPROPRIATIONS**

16 **SEC. 101. FISCAL YEAR 2018.**

17 There are authorized to be appropriated to NASA for
18 fiscal year 2018, \$20,736,140,000, as follows:

19 (1) For Science, \$6,221,500,000, of which—

20 (A) \$1,921,000,000 is for Earth Science;

21 (B) \$2,227,900,000 is for Planetary
22 Science;

23 (C) \$850,400,000 is for Astrophysics;

24 (D) \$533,700,000 is for the James Webb
25 Space Telescope; and

1 (E) \$688,500,000 is for Heliophysics.

2 (2) For Aeronautics, \$685,000,000.

3 (3) For Space Technology, \$760,000,000.

4 (4) For Exploration, \$4,790,000,000, of
5 which—

6 (A) \$1,350,000,000 is for Orion and asso-
7 ciated program and other necessary support;

8 (B) \$2,150,000,000 is for the Space
9 Launch System and associated program and
10 other necessary support;

11 (C) \$895,000,000 is for Exploration
12 Ground Systems; and

13 (D) \$395,000,000 is for Exploration Re-
14 search and Development.

15 (5) For Space Operations, \$4,751,500,000.

16 (6) For Education, \$100,000,000, of which—

17 (A) \$18,000,000 is for the Experimental
18 Program to Stimulate Competitive Research;
19 and

20 (B) \$40,000,000 is for the National Space
21 Grant College and Fellowship Program.

22 (7) For Safety, Security, and Mission Services,
23 \$2,826,900,000.

24 (8) For Construction and Environmental Com-
25 pliance and Restoration, \$562,240,000.

1 (9) For Inspector General, \$39,000,000.

2 **SEC. 102. FISCAL YEAR 2019.**

3 There are authorized to be appropriated to NASA for
4 fiscal year 2019, \$20,736,140,000, as follows:

5 (1) For Deep Space Exploration Systems,
6 \$4,929,000,000, of which—

7 (A) \$4,040,000,000 is for Exploration Sys-
8 tems Development, of which—

9 (i) \$2,150,000,000 is for Orion and
10 associated program and other necessary
11 support;

12 (ii) \$1,350,000,000 is for the Space
13 Launch System and associated program
14 and other necessary support; and

15 (iii) \$540,000,000 is for Exploration
16 Ground Systems; and

17 (B) \$889,000,000 is for Advanced Explo-
18 ration Systems, of which—

19 (i) \$504,300,000 is for the Lunar Or-
20 bital Platform–Gateway and associated
21 program and other necessary support;

22 (ii) \$116,500,000 is for Advanced
23 Cislunar and Surface Capabilities; and

24 (iii) \$268,200,000 is for Exploration
25 Advanced Systems.

1 (2) For Exploration and Research Technology,
2 \$1,017,700,000, of which—

3 (A) \$108,500,000 is for Early Stage Inno-
4 vation and Partnerships;

5 (B) \$216,500,000 if for Technology Matu-
6 ration, of which \$75,000,000 is for nuclear fis-
7 sion and cryogenic fluid management develop-
8 ment;

9 (C) \$332,700,000 is for Technology Dem-
10 onstration.

11 (D) \$140,000,000 is for Human Research
12 Program; and

13 (E) \$205,000,000 is for Small Business
14 Innovation Research and Small Business Tech-
15 nology Transfer.

16 (3) For Low-Earth Orbit and Spaceflight Oper-
17 ations, \$4,624,600,000, of which—

18 (A) \$1,462,200,000 is for the Inter-
19 national Space Station;

20 (B) \$2,108,700,000 is for Space Transpor-
21 tation;

22 (C) \$903,700,000 is for Space Flight Sup-
23 port; and

24 (D) \$150,000,000 is for Commercial Low-
25 Earth Orbit Development.

- 1 (4) For Science, \$6,152,600,000, of which—
2 (A) \$1,450,000,000 is for Earth Science;
3 (B) \$2,636,500,000 is for Planetary
4 Science;
5 (C) \$1,375,400,000 is for Astrophysics;
6 and
7 (D) \$690,700,000 is for Heliophysics.
- 8 (5) For Aeronautics, \$685,000,000.
- 9 (6) For Education, \$100,000,000, of which—
10 (A) \$18,000,000 is for the Established
11 Program to Stimulate Competitive Research;
12 and
13 (B) \$40,000,000 is for Space Grant.
- 14 (7) For Safety, Security, and Mission Services,
15 \$2,749,700,000.
- 16 (8) For Construction and Environmental Com-
17 pliance and Restoration, \$438,200,000.
- 18 (9) For Inspector General, \$39,300,000.

19 **TITLE II—HUMAN EXPLORATION**

20 **SEC. 201. SPACE FACILITIES BEYOND LOW-EARTH ORBIT.**

21 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
22 gress that space facilities for use beyond low-Earth orbit
23 play a significant role in NASA’s long-term pursuit of its
24 exploration goals under section 202(a) of the National

1 Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act
2 of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18312(a)).

3 (b) CREWED AND CREW-TENDED SPACE FACILITIES
4 REPORT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
6 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
7 shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space,
8 and Technology of the House of Representatives and
9 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
10 portation of the Senate a report on the potential de-
11 velopment of space facilities for use beyond low-
12 Earth orbit.

13 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required under
14 paragraph (1) shall include a description of—

15 (A) how each such space facility can ad-
16 vance, enable, or complement human explo-
17 ration of the Solar System, including of the at-
18 mosphere and the surface of celestial bodies;

19 (B) the role of the space facility as a stag-
20 ging, logistics, and operations hub in an explo-
21 ration architecture;

22 (C) how the space facility could support
23 the research, development, testing, validation,
24 operation, and launch of space exploration sys-
25 tems and technologies;

1 (D) opportunities and strategies for com-
2 mercial operation or public-private partnerships
3 that protect taxpayer interests and foster com-
4 petition; and

5 (E) the role of such a space facility in
6 making, developing, and refining the case for
7 further crewed and uncrewed exploration invest-
8 ments.

9 **SEC. 202. ISS TRANSITION.**

10 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

11 (1) The ISS is a valuable national asset that
12 can continue to produce worthwhile scientific re-
13 search and valuable technology.

14 (2) The ISS mission should be to carry out
15 microgravity research and development, research in
16 support of deep space human exploration, and low-
17 Earth orbit commercialization.

18 (3) The ISS is the best platform currently
19 available to conduct certain types of research needed
20 for NASA’s deep space human exploration program
21 with such research currently scheduled to be com-
22 pleted by the end of fiscal year 2024.

23 (4) The ISS transition report, submitted pursu-
24 ant to section 50111(c)(2) of title 51, United States
25 Code, provides an explanation of NASA’s plans to

1 foster the development of private industry capabili-
2 ties and private demand with a goal of ending direct
3 NASA support for ISS operations by the end of fis-
4 cal year 2024.

5 (5) The plans laid out in the ISS transition re-
6 port are conditionally flexible and require feedback
7 to inform next steps. In addition, the feasibility of
8 ending direct NASA support for ISS operations by
9 the end of fiscal year 2024 is dependent on many
10 factors, some of which are indeterminate until the
11 Administration carries out the initial phases of the
12 ISS transition plan.

13 (6) The value of any in-space facility, such as
14 the ISS, depends both on its contributions to further
15 expansion of human presence throughout the solar
16 system, pursuant to section 202 of the National Aer-
17 onautics and Space Administration Authorization
18 Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18312) and to making exist-
19 ing presence self-sustaining.

20 (7) As the United States moves towards a com-
21 mitment to a human presence off the surface of the
22 Earth, other Government agencies should seek to
23 benefit from and capitalize upon the ongoing human
24 presence in space.

1 (b) IN GENERAL.—The Administration shall support
2 Johnson Space Center as a center of innovation and lead-
3 ership in developing human operations, including surfaces
4 of celestial bodies, beyond Earth, to the cis-lunar region,
5 the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

6 (c) ISS OPERATION.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—NASA shall continue oper-
8 ation of the International Space Station for such
9 time as Congress authorizes its operations.

10 (2) INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—NASA
11 shall pursue international agreements to provide
12 maximum flexibility for ISS utilization.

13 (3) LOW-EARTH ORBIT.—NASA shall pursue a
14 step-wise transition of low-Earth orbit human
15 spaceflight operations from a Government-directed
16 activity to a model where private industry is respon-
17 sible for how to meet and execute NASA’s require-
18 ments.

19 (4) TRANSITION REPORT.—NASA shall carry
20 out activities in fiscal year 2019 as proposed in the
21 ISS transition report, delivered pursuant to section
22 50111(c) of title 51, United States Code.

23 (d) REPORTING.—In addition to the biennial report-
24 ing requirement under section 50111(c) of title 51, United
25 States Code, the Administrator shall brief the Committee

1 on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
3 and Transportation of the Senate quarterly, beginning on
4 the date that is 3 months after the date of enactment of
5 this Act, on the status of, and all progress, changes, and
6 other developments related to carrying out the plans in
7 the ISS transition report.

8 (e) **AUTHORIZED FUNDING.**—Subject to the avail-
9 ability of appropriations, shall make available at least
10 \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 for commercial low-
11 Earth orbit development out of the LEO and Spaceflight
12 Operations account.

13 **SEC. 203. HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT RESEARCH.**

14 (a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Con-
15 gress that—

16 (1) the benefits derived from the peaceful use
17 of space depend on the extent to which ground-based
18 space infrastructure, facilities, and research are well-
19 integrated; and

20 (2) NASA Johnson Space Center (hereinafter
21 referred to as “JSC”) has the expertise and facilities
22 to support the development of the major techno-
23 logical innovations necessary to enable and support
24 the nation’s ongoing commitment to human

1 spaceflight, exploration, and continued human pres-
2 ence in space.

3 (b) JOHNSON SPACE CENTER RESEARCH OFFICE.—

4 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall
5 establish a research office at JSC to build upon the
6 Center’s existing expertise in human space flight
7 missions for future challenges.

8 (2) RESEARCH DIRECTOR.—The head of the re-
9 search office shall be the research director, who shall
10 report directly to the Director of JSC.

11 (3) DUTIES.—The research director shall have,
12 at a minimum, the following duties:

13 (A) Oversee a research portfolio focused on
14 human space flight.

15 (B) Recommend infrastructure and equip-
16 ment necessary to carry out a research mission.

17 (C) Oversee professional development and
18 continuing education, as necessary and appro-
19 priate, for the civil workforce as the research
20 and innovation focus of the center increases.

21 (4) SCOPE OF RESEARCH.—The research office
22 shall focus on aspects of research that are directly
23 relevant to the endeavor of human space flight, in-
24 cluding problems of human spaceflight and robotics
25 supporting human space exploration.

1 (5) SUPPORT FOR HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT AC-
2 TIVITIES.—JSC shall, consistent with its primary re-
3 sponsibilities to NASA and other government cus-
4 tomers, endeavor to make the fullest possible use of
5 its facilities and infrastructure to support all U.S.
6 human spaceflight activities, including those of the
7 private sector.

8 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the en-
9 actment of this Act, NASA and JSC shall submit to the
10 Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the
11 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
12 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
13 on NASA’s progress on, and other developments related
14 to, carrying out the requirements of this section.

15 (d) AUTHORIZED FUNDING.—Subject to the avail-
16 ability of appropriations, the Administrator shall make
17 available at least \$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 out of
18 the Exploration Research and Technology account to carry
19 out this section.

20 **SEC. 204. CRITICAL PATH REDUNDANCY FOR HUMAN**
21 **SPACEFLIGHT.**

22 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that NASA, in co-
23 operation with private sector and international partners,
24 has facilitated the development of a wide array of cargo

1 and crew transportation options for operations in low-
2 Earth orbit and beyond.

3 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that the availability of a multitude of launch vehicles
5 and crew and cargo vehicles provides critical path redun-
6 dancy.

7 (c) LOGISTICAL AND TRANSPORT REDUNDANCY.—
8 Not later than 3 months after the date of the enactment
9 of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Com-
10 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
11 Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-
12 nology of the House of Representatives a report that con-
13 tains an evaluation of the suitability and performance, in-
14 cluding cost, reliability, and availability, of—

15 (1) all available crew and cargo vehicles for des-
16 tinations in low-Earth orbit, cis-lunar space, and be-
17 yond; and

18 (2) all available launch vehicles that are capable
19 of delivering more than 20 tons to, or beyond, low-
20 Earth orbit to support exploration and scientific
21 missions, particularly to outer planets.

22 **SEC. 205. SPACE SUITS.**

23 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Space suits and associated extravehicular
2 activity (in this section, referred to as “EVA”) tech-
3 nologies are critical space exploration technologies.

4 (2) The NASA civil service workforce at the
5 Johnson Space Center possesses unique capabilities
6 to integrate, design, and validate space suits and as-
7 sociated EVA technologies.

8 (3) Maintaining a strong core competency in
9 the design, development, manufacture, and operation
10 of space suits and related technologies allows NASA
11 to be an informed purchaser of competitively award-
12 ed commercial space suits and associated EVA tech-
13 nologies.

14 (4) NASA should fully utilize the International
15 Space Station by 2025 to test future space suits and
16 associated EVA technologies to reduce risk and im-
17 prove safety.

18 (b) SPACE SUITS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—NASA shall develop space
20 suits and associated EVA technologies.

21 (2) MANAGEMENT.—The Johnson Space Center
22 shall manage the space suit and EVA programs of
23 NASA.

24 (3) PRIVATE SECTOR.—In carrying out this
25 subsection, the Administrator may enter into agree-

1 ments with the private sector as the Administrator
2 considers appropriate.

3 **TITLE III—SCIENCE**

4 **Subtitle A—Earth Science**

5 **SEC. 301. REIMBURSABLE BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF** 6 **SENSORS AND INSTRUMENTS.**

7 Chapter 605 of title 51, United States Code, is
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “§ 60507. Reimbursable basis for development of sen- 10 **sors and instruments**

11 “Any work undertaken by the Administration for the
12 benefit of another agency shall be conducted on a reim-
13 bursable basis that accounts for the full cost of the work,
14 including work undertaken for the development of oper-
15 ational Earth science systems, including satellite, sensor,
16 or instrument development, acquisition, and operations, as
17 well as product development and data analysis.”.

18 (1) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of
19 sections for chapter 605 of title 51, United States
20 Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
21 lowing:

“60507. Reimbursable basis for development of sensors and instruments.”.

22 **SEC. 302. EARTH OBSERVATIONS STUDY.**

23 Section 702 of the National Aeronautics and Space
24 Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C.
25 18371) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “The Director of” and inserting
2 the following:

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(b) CONSIDERATION.—In carrying out the strategic
6 implementation plan under subsection (a), the Director
7 shall take into account and incorporate into such plan, as
8 appropriate, purchasing Earth observation data and serv-
9 ices from the private sector or through public-private part-
10 nerships to meet Earth observation requirements.”.

11 **SEC. 303. LAND IMAGING.**

12 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
13 gress that—

14 (1) the continuous collection and utilization of
15 land remote sensing data from space are of major
16 benefit in studying and understanding human im-
17 pacts on the global environment, in managing the
18 Earth’s natural resources, in carrying out national
19 security functions, and in planning and conducting
20 many other activities of scientific, economic, and so-
21 cial importance; and

22 (2) to the greatest extent practicable, the
23 United States should foster the development of U.S.
24 private sector remote sensing capabilities and anal-
25 yses that can satisfy the public interest in long-term

1 continuous collection of medium-resolution land re-
2 mote sensing data.

3 (b) CONTINUOUS LAND REMOTE SENSING DATA
4 COLLECTION.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter
6 601 of title 51, United States Code, is amended by
7 adding at the end the following new section:

8 **“§ 60135. Continuous land remote sensing data collec-**
9 **tion**

10 “(a) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States
11 to—

12 “(1) ensure, to the greatest extent practicable,
13 the continuous collection of space-based, medium-
14 resolution observations of the Earth’s land cover;

15 “(2) ensure that the collected data are made
16 available in such ways as to facilitate the widest pos-
17 sible use; and

18 “(3) to the greatest extent practicable, foster
19 the development of U.S. private sector remote sens-
20 ing capabilities and analyses that can satisfy the
21 public interest in long-term continuous collection of
22 medium-resolution land remote sensing data.

23 “(b) COORDINATION.—The National Space Council,
24 in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies, shall

1 coordinate United States Government activities described
2 under paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a).”.

3 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of
4 sections for subchapter IV of chapter 601 of title 51,
5 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
6 end the following new section:

“60135. Continuous land remote sensing data collection.”.

7 **SEC. 304. LANDSAT DATA POLICY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—

9 (1) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—No funds
10 may be obligated or expended for Landsat 11 or any
11 other subsequent Landsat system until the Adminis-
12 trator has completed a study assessing which aspects
13 of Landsat system observations and associated
14 science requirements can be provided by purchasing
15 data from the private sector or through public-pri-
16 vate partnerships.

17 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
18 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
19 shall transmit to the Committee on Science, Space,
20 and Technology of the House of Representatives and
21 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
22 portation of the Senate, a report containing the re-
23 sults of the study required under paragraph (1).

1 (b) DEFINITION OF LANDSAT SYSTEM.—In this sec-
2 tion, the term “Landsat system” has the meaning given
3 that term in section 60101 of title 51, United States Code.

4 **SEC. 305. EARTH SCIENCE MISSIONS.**

5 The Administrator shall continue to restructure the
6 Earth science portfolio of NASA to reduce overall costs,
7 support innovative and sustainable programs and missions
8 with commercial and international partners, and align
9 with the recommendations of the National Academy of
10 Sciences included in the publication published in 2018 ti-
11 tled “Thriving on Our Changing Planet: A Decadal Strat-
12 egy for Earth Observation from Space” to ensure that the
13 Earth science portfolio is focused on the highest priority
14 missions for the science and applications communities
15 within a balanced, comprehensive Earth science program.

16 **SEC. 306. GODDARD INSTITUTE FOR SPACE STUDIES IN-**
17 **SPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.**

18 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
19 of this Act, the Administrator shall transmit to the Com-
20 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
21 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
22 Science, and Transportation of the Senate, a report con-
23 taining the results of NASA’s implementation of the rec-
24 ommendations identified in the report published by the
25 NASA Office of Inspector General on April 5, 2018, titled

1 “NASA’s Management GISS: The Goddard Institute for
2 Space Studies”.

3 **Subtitle B—Astronomy and**
4 **Astrophysics**

5 **SEC. 311. SEARCH FOR THE ORIGIN, EVOLUTION, DISTRIBU-**
6 **TION, AND FUTURE OF LIFE IN THE UNI-**
7 **VERSE.**

8 (a) POLICY.—Section 20102(d)(10) of title 51,
9 United States Code, includes the search for life’s origin,
10 evolution, distribution, and future in the universe as an
11 objective of U.S. aeronautical and space activities.

12 (b) IN GENERAL.—NASA shall partner with the pri-
13 vate sector and philanthropic organizations to the max-
14 imum extent practicable to search for technosignatures,
15 such as radio transmissions, in order to meet the NASA
16 objective to search for life’s origin, evolution, distribution,
17 and future in the universe.

18 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
19 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit
20 to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of
21 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
22 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report,
23 produced in consultation with industry and academia, on
24 all NASA programs, including partnerships with the pri-
25 vate sector and philanthropic organizations, that con-

1 tribute to the search for life’s origin, evolution, distribu-
2 tion, and future in the universe.

3 (d) **AUTHORIZED FUNDING.**—Subject to the avail-
4 ability of appropriations, the Administrator shall make
5 available at least \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
6 2018 and 2019 for the search for technosignatures.

7 **SEC. 312. WIDE-FIELD INFRARED SPACE TELESCOPE.**

8 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

9 (1) Concurrent flagship programs challenge sig-
10 nificantly NASA’s program management capacity,
11 especially during later stages of the program man-
12 agement process.

13 (2) The Wide-Field Infrared Space Telescope
14 (hereinafter referred to as “WFIRST”) was can-
15 celled in the President’s fiscal year 2019 budget re-
16 quest.

17 (3) WFIRST was funded in the amount of
18 \$150,000,000 in NASA’s appropriation for fiscal
19 year 2018.

20 (4) Pursuant to direction in NASA’s appropria-
21 tion for fiscal year 2018, NASA is conducting a pre-
22 liminary life-cycle cost estimate, including any addi-
23 tions needed to achieve Class A classification, along
24 with a year-by-year breakout of development costs.

1 (5) Until such preliminary life-cycle cost esti-
2 mate is complete, Congress has insufficient informa-
3 tion to judge whether or not WFIRST should be au-
4 thorized to proceed in fiscal year 2019.

5 (b) TOTAL COST.—The total formulation and devel-
6 opment cost, as such term is defined in section 30104 of
7 title 51, United States Code, for the Wide-Field Infrared
8 Space Telescope shall not exceed \$3,200,000,000.

9 (c) BUDGET.—The Administrator shall include in the
10 budget for fiscal year 2020 a 5-year funding profile nec-
11 essary to achieve the goal in subsection (b).

12 (d) LIMITATION.—The Administrator shall not pro-
13 cure a launch vehicle for the Wide-Field Infrared Space
14 Telescope until the James Webb Space Telescope is oper-
15 ational in space.

16 **Subtitle C—Planetary Science**

17 **SEC. 321. NEAR-EARTH OBJECT SURVEY.**

18 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

19 (1) The George E. Brown, Jr. Near-Earth Ob-
20 ject Survey Act (Public Law 109–155) established
21 the Near-Earth Object Survey program to detect,
22 track, and catalogue the physical characteristics of
23 near-Earth objects equal to or greater than 140 me-
24 ters in diameter in order to assess the threat of such
25 objects to Earth.

1 (2) The goal of the Survey program is to
2 achieve 90 percent completion of the near-Earth
3 project catalogue (based on statistically predicted
4 populations of near-Earth objects) not later than 15
5 years after the date of the enactment of the George
6 E. Brown, Jr. Near-Earth Object Survey Act.

7 (3) NASA has been successful finding more
8 than 90 percent of the near-Earth asteroids larger
9 than one kilometer but has only found about 30 per-
10 cent of the near-Earth objects larger than 140 me-
11 ters.

12 (4) The vast majority of near-Earth object dis-
13 coveries have been made by NASA-supported
14 ground-based telescopic surveys.

15 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
16 gress that—

17 (1) in order to meet the statutory requirements
18 of the George E Brown, Jr. Near-Earth Object Sur-
19 vey Act (Public Law 109–155), a space-based tele-
20 scope mission should be fully funded and supported
21 by NASA and carried out by the Planetary Defense
22 Coordination Office; and

23 (2) the space-based telescope Near-Earth Ob-
24 ject Camera mission, or a similar infrared telescope
25 concept optimized for near-Earth object search and

1 characterization, could discover and characterize
2 most of the potentially hazardous asteroids that are
3 near the Earth.

4 **SEC. 322. SPACE NUCLEAR POWER.**

5 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that in-space nuclear
6 fission power complements the use of Plutonium-238 radi-
7 oisotope thermoelectric generators (in this section referred
8 to as “RTG”) for spacecraft power needs.

9 (b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—
10 (1) to continue the development of in-space nu-
11 clear fission technology, as necessary, for purposes
12 including—

13 (A) in-space power generation for advanced
14 in-space propulsion;

15 (B) onboard power generation to replace or
16 supplement RTG systems;

17 (C) power generation on the surface of ce-
18 lestial bodies;

19 (D) extraction and processing of in situ re-
20 sources; and

21 (E) nuclear thermal and nuclear electric
22 propulsion able to transport crew or cargo
23 among Earth and other celestial bodies much
24 more rapidly than is practical with non-nuclear
25 systems;

1 (2) that research and development of in-space
2 nuclear fission power should be carried out as part
3 of a portfolio that appropriately balances develop-
4 ment of power systems at different sizes and matu-
5 rities, with an emphasis on early development of ma-
6 ture, operational systems; and

7 (3) that NASA should continually seek to
8 streamline the process for space launch approval of
9 nuclear materials, eliminate redundant and
10 unneeded processes, and regularize the process for
11 efficient, regular functioning, and toward that end,
12 the Administrator should update the launch approval
13 process and seek to establish a licensing process for
14 private nuclear power sources in space.

15 (c) SPACE NUCLEAR POWER REPORT.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
17 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
18 trator shall submit to the Committee on Science,
19 Space, and Technology of the House of Representa-
20 tives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
21 Transportation of the Senate a report, produced in
22 consultation with industry and academia, on the use
23 and role of nuclear fission power in space.

24 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required under
25 paragraph (1) shall include—

1 (A) an assessment of the prospects for in-
2 space nuclear fission reactors, describing par-
3 ticular roles and missions for which nuclear
4 power is uniquely well-suited;

5 (B) a description of the convergence be-
6 tween NASA's existing Plutonium-238 RTG
7 programs and ongoing nuclear thermal propul-
8 sion and nuclear power generation development
9 programs;

10 (C) a detailed plan for encouraging conver-
11 gence between NASA's various nuclear power
12 and propulsion efforts;

13 (D) an identification of key infrastructure
14 and facilities needed for the development of in-
15 space nuclear fission power reactors;

16 (E) an identification of particular legal
17 issues, including regulatory challenges, that
18 must be addressed for the use of nuclear fission
19 power systems;

20 (F) how small in-space nuclear fission re-
21 actors can complement or replace existing and
22 planned radioisotope thermal generator capa-
23 bilities; and

1 (G) information on very low cost, high reli-
2 ability designs that can be made operational
3 quickly.

4 (d) DEMONSTRATION.—NASA should demonstrate a
5 nuclear electric power reactor for use in space using exist-
6 ing authorized funding levels and within a schedule made
7 possible by appropriated funding.

8 **TITLE IV—AERONAUTICS**

9 **SEC. 401. SUPERSONIC RESEARCH.**

10 (a) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to
11 reduce Government barriers to the development of civil su-
12 personic transportation.

13 (b) RESEARCH.—Section 40112(a) of title 51, United
14 States Code, is amended—

15 (1) by striking “The Administrator” and insert-
16 ing the following:

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(2) RESEARCH.—The Administrator, in con-
20 sultation with the Administrator of the Federal
21 Aviation Administration, shall undertake research on
22 supersonic transport to inform and accelerate the
23 promulgation of domestic regulations and inter-
24 national standards and recommended practices that

1 will open up the U.S. civil airspace to civil super-
2 sonic transport.”.

3 **SEC. 402. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS RESEARCH.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—

5 (1) TITLE 51.—Chapter 315 of title 51, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 **“§ 31506. Unmanned aircraft systems research**

9 “The Administrator, in consultation with the Admin-
10 istrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and other
11 Federal agencies, shall conduct research on facilitating the
12 safe integration of unmanned aircraft systems into the na-
13 tional airspace system, including—

14 “(1) positioning and navigation systems;

15 “(2) sense-and-avoid capabilities;

16 “(3) secure data and communication links;

17 “(4) flight recovery systems; and

18 “(5) human systems integration.”.

19 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of
20 sections for chapter 315 of title 51, United States
21 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following
22 new item:

“31506. Unmanned aircraft systems research.”.

23 (b) COOPERATIVE UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE AC-
24 TIVITIES.—Section 31504 of title 51, United States Code,
25 is amended by adding at the end the following: “Oper-

1 ational flight data derived from such cooperative agree-
2 ments shall be made available, in appropriate and usable
3 formats, to the Administration and the Federal Aviation
4 Administration for the development of regulatory stand-
5 ards.”.

6 **SEC. 403. 21ST CENTURY AERONAUTICS RESEARCH CAPA-**
7 **BILITIES INITIATIVE.**

8 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Administrator shall es-
9 tablish an initiative to be known as the 21st Century Aero-
10 nautics Research Capabilities Initiative, funded through
11 the Construction of Facilities account, to ensure that
12 NASA possesses the infrastructure capabilities and com-
13 putational tools necessary to conduct flight demonstration
14 projects across the range of NASA aeronautics interests.

15 (b) **ACTIVITIES.**—In carrying out the 21st Century
16 Aeronautics Research Capabilities Initiative, the Adminis-
17 trator shall—

18 (1) upgrade and create facilities for civil and
19 national security aeronautics research; and

20 (2) support flight testing activities.

21 (c) **OPERATING MODEL.**—In carrying out the 21st
22 Century Aeronautics Research Capabilities Initiative, the
23 Administrator shall, to the greatest extent practicable,
24 build on NASA’s work on developing its Operating Model

1 and the results of the Technical Capabilities Assessment
2 Team.

3 (d) REPORT.—

4 (1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120
5 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Ad-
6 ministrators shall submit to the Committee on
7 Science, Space, and Technology of the House of
8 Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
9 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
10 containing a 5-year plan for the implementation of
11 the 21st Century Aeronautics Research Capabilities
12 Initiative.

13 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under
14 this subsection shall include—

15 (A) a description of proposed projects;

16 (B) a description of how the projects align
17 with the Aeronautics Strategic Implementation
18 Plan; and

19 (C) a timetable for carrying out activities
20 and initiatives authorized under this section.

21 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000, funded
23 through the Construction of Facilities account, for fiscal
24 year 2019 to carry out this section.

1 **SEC. 404. EXPERIMENTAL PLANE PROGRAM.**

2 (a) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to
3 maintain the role of the United States as a world leader
4 in aeronautical science and technology.

5 (b) OBJECTIVE.—A fundamental objective of NASA
6 aeronautics research is the steady progression and expan-
7 sion of high-speed flight research and capabilities, includ-
8 ing the science and technology of critical underlying dis-
9 ciplines and competencies, the most important of which
10 are computational-based analytical and predictive tools
11 and methodologies, aero thermodynamics, high-speed
12 flight propulsion, high-temperature structures and mate-
13 rials, and flight controls.

14 **SEC. 405. HYPERSONIC TECHNOLOGY PROJECT.**

15 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

16 (1) the development of new hypersonic flight
17 technologies is important to the United States;

18 (2) though hypersonic flight technologies are
19 likely to be applied to enhance defense systems in
20 the near-term, in the long-term, application of such
21 technologies may expand to include improved access-
22 to-space capabilities that benefit NASA; and

23 (3) NASA maintains specialized facilities and
24 experts who will focus on research areas that explore
25 challenges in hypersonic flight.

1 (b) POLICY.—In carrying out the Hypersonic Tech-
2 nology project, NASA should focus research and develop-
3 ment efforts on high-speed propulsion systems, reusable
4 vehicle technologies, high-temperature materials, and sys-
5 tems analysis.

6 (c) AUTHORIZED FUNDING.—Subject to the avail-
7 ability of appropriations, the Administrator shall make
8 available at least \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 for the
9 Hypersonic Technology project.

10 **TITLE V—COMMERCIAL**

11 **SEC. 501. COMMERCIAL SUPPLY OF SPACE PRODUCTS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 501 of
13 title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
14 end the following:

15 **“§ 50117. Commercial supply of space products**

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In planning and carrying out
17 space exploration missions, the Administrator shall, to the
18 greatest extent practicable, prioritize the acquisition and
19 use of space products provided by a United States com-
20 mercial provider or through a public-private partnership
21 with a United States commercial provider.

22 “(b) SPACE PRODUCT DEFINED.—In this section, the
23 term ‘space product’ means a tangible good, including a
24 finished good, or commodity, including a propellant, water,
25 oxygen, or gas, that—

1 “(1) is required for space exploration activities;
2 and

3 “(2) originates in outer space.

4 “(c) COMMODITIES USED IN SPACE.—

5 “(1) LIST OF COMMODITIES.—In planning a
6 space exploration mission, the Administrator shall
7 create a list of commodities to be used during such
8 mission. The list shall include specification of each
9 commodity, anticipated quantity, and the location
10 and the timeframe of need.

11 “(2) COMMODITY COST BASIS.—For each com-
12 modity listed pursuant paragraph (1), NASA shall
13 establish a commodity cost basis that shall represent
14 the lesser of—

15 “(A) the estimated cost to procure the
16 commodity on Earth and deliver the commodity
17 to the location of use; and

18 “(B) the estimated cost for the Govern-
19 ment to procure the equivalent commodity that
20 is a space product.

21 “(3) PUBLICATION.—The Administrator shall
22 annually publish the information compiled under
23 paragraphs (1) and (2) during the previous calendar
24 year.

1 “(d) EXCEPTIONS.—The Administrator shall not be
2 required to prioritize the acquisition of space products for
3 the purposes described in subsection (a) if, on a case-by-
4 case basis—

5 “(1) the Administrator determines that—

6 “(A) cost-effective space products that
7 meet specific mission requirements would not be
8 reasonably available from United States com-
9 mercial providers when required;

10 “(B) the use of space products from
11 United States commercial providers poses an
12 unacceptable mission risk; or

13 “(C) the use of space products is incon-
14 sistent with international agreements for inter-
15 national collaborative efforts relating to science
16 and technology; or

17 “(2) the Secretary of the Air Force determines
18 that the use of space commodities from United
19 States commercial providers is inconsistent with na-
20 tional security objectives.

21 “(e) AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN ENTITIES.—
22 Nothing in this section shall prevent the Administrator
23 from planning or negotiating agreements with foreign gov-
24 ernmental entities for the provision of space products.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subchapter II of
2 chapter 501 of title 51, United States Code, is amended
3 by adding at the end the following:

“50117. Commercial supply of space products.”.

4 **SEC. 502. COMMERCIAL PROVISION OF SERVICES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 501 of
6 title 51, United States Code, is further amended by adding
7 at the end the following:

8 **“§ 50118. Commercial provision of services**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In planning and carrying out
10 space exploration missions, the Administrator shall, to the
11 greatest extent practicable, acquire services to be carried
12 out in outer space by a United States commercial provider
13 or through a public-private partnership with a United
14 States commercial provider to support such missions.

15 “(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The Administrator shall not be
16 required to acquire services under subsection (a) from a
17 United States commercial provider or through a public-
18 private partnership with a United States commercial pro-
19 vider if, on a case-by-case basis—

20 “(1) the Administrator determines that—

21 “(A) cost-effective services that meet spe-
22 cific mission requirements would not be reason-
23 ably available from United States commercial
24 providers when required;

1 “(B) the use of such services from United
2 States commercial providers poses an unaccept-
3 able mission risk; or

4 “(C) the use of such services is incon-
5 sistent with international agreements for inter-
6 national collaborative efforts relating to science
7 and technology; or

8 “(2) the Secretary of the Air Force determines
9 that the use of services from United States commer-
10 cial providers is inconsistent with national security
11 objectives.

12 “(c) AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN ENTITIES.—
13 Nothing in this section shall prevent the Administrator
14 from planning or negotiating agreements with foreign gov-
15 ernmental entities for the provision of support services to
16 be carried out in outer space.”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subchapter II of
18 chapter 501 of title 51, United States Code, is further
19 amended by adding at the end the following:

“50118. Commercial provision of services.”.

20 **SEC. 503. COMMERCIAL IN-SPACE INFRASTRUCTURE.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 501 of
22 title 51, United States Code, is further amended by adding
23 at the end the following:

1 **“§ 50119. Commercial in-space infrastructure**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In planning and carrying out
3 space exploration missions, the Administrator shall, to the
4 greatest extent practicable, make use of commercial in-
5 space infrastructure to support such missions.

6 “(b) COMMERCIAL IN-SPACE INFRASTRUCTURE.—In
7 this section, the term ‘commercial in-space infrastructure’
8 means infrastructure that is—

9 “(1) owned, managed, or built by a United
10 States commercial provider or through a public-pri-
11 vate partnership with a United States commercial
12 provider; and

13 “(2) located more than 320,000 kilometers
14 from the Earth’s surface.

15 “(c) EXCEPTIONS.—The Administrator shall not be
16 required to use commercial in-space infrastructure if, on
17 a case-by-case basis—

18 “(1) the Administrator determines that—

19 “(A) cost-effective infrastructure that
20 meets specific mission requirements would not
21 be reasonably available from United States
22 commercial providers when required;

23 “(B) the use of commercial in-space infra-
24 structure poses an unacceptable mission risk; or

25 “(C) the use of commercial in-space infra-
26 structure is inconsistent with international

1 industry and Security survey of the United States aerospace
2 industrial base until the date that is 30 days after the
3 date on which the Administrator submits to the Com-
4 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
5 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
6 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a written notifi-
7 cation that includes—

8 (1) the proposed subject matter of such survey;

9 (2) a description of the information to be re-
10 quired of survey respondents; and

11 (3) any penalties proposed to be assessed by the
12 Federal Government against respondents for non-
13 compliance with survey requirements.

14 **SEC. 506. SPECTRUM COORDINATION.**

15 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall develop
16 and implement a plan to more effectively and efficiently,
17 taking into account NASA’s spectrum requirements, share
18 electromagnetic spectrum assigned to NASA with United
19 States nongovernmental entities operating or proposing to
20 operate space objects.

21 (b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date
22 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit
23 to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of
24 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-

1 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
2 on the plan developed under subsection (a).

3 **SEC. 507. ENHANCED-USE LEASING.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that—

6 (1) NASA possesses a variety of unique and
7 world-class facilities;

8 (2) NASA is developing and using many dif-
9 ferent methods to offset the cost of maintaining and
10 operating such facilities;

11 (3) nongovernmental entities may be able to use
12 such facilities in a manner that is cost-effective; and

13 (4) agreements between NASA and nongovern-
14 mental entities regarding the use of such facilities
15 may offset a portion of the spending of NASA.

16 (b) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO LEASE NON-EX-
17 CESS PROPERTY.—Section 20145(g) of title 51, United
18 States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2018”
19 and inserting “December 31, 2020”.

20 (c) CONDITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—For any year
21 for which funds are made available under section 20145
22 of title 51, United States Code, (as amended by subsection
23 (b)), no funds may be expended by the Administrator
24 under such section after January 31 unless Administrator
25 submits, before such date, to the Committee on Science,

1 Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives
2 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
3 tation of the Senate the annual report required under such
4 section for the prior year.

5 **SEC. 508. SATELLITE SERVICING TECHNOLOGIES.**

6 The Administrator shall continue to restructure
7 NASA investments in the development of satellite serv-
8 icing technologies to reduce the overall cost to NASA and
9 align with NASA needs for exploration.

10 **TITLE VI—POLICY**

11 **SEC. 601. NASA-FUNDED INSTITUTES.**

12 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that on June 9,
13 2016, the Office of Inspector General of NASA reported
14 that—

15 (1) NASA does not aggregate information on
16 the universe, status, or funding levels for the many
17 institutes it supports;

18 (2) the absence of this information makes it dif-
19 ficult for NASA leaders to strategically evaluate the
20 scope or purpose of its institute investments and for
21 Congress and other stakeholders to understand how
22 NASA is spending more than three-quarters of a bil-
23 lion dollars of its budget annually;

1 (3) absent comprehensive, centralized informa-
2 tion about these investments, it may be difficult for
3 NASA to avoid duplication among its efforts;

4 (4) NASA has not defined what constitutes an
5 institute or established guidance and metrics on the
6 management, use, or expectations for return on in-
7 vestment;

8 (5) such guidance may enable NASA to gain a
9 better understanding of how funds directed to
10 NASA-funded institutes are utilized to accomplish
11 the mission and goals of NASA, increase its return
12 on investment, and evaluate the performance of such
13 institutes; and

14 (6) NASA lacks a standard process to assess a
15 potential grantee’s financial condition prior to grant
16 award or to impose additional reporting or oversight
17 requirements that such a condition may warrant,
18 and without such a mechanism, NASA risks making
19 uninformed investment decisions.

20 (b) INSTITUTE BUDGETS.—Section 30103(a) of title
21 51, United States Code, is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the
23 end;

24 (2) by redesignating paragraph (6) as para-
25 graph (7); and

1 (3) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(6) the budget for each NASA-funded insti-
4 tute; and”.

5 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
6 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit
7 to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of
8 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
9 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
10 that recommends guidance and metrics for the manage-
11 ment, utilization, expectations for return on investment,
12 and financial condition of NASA-funded institutes.

13 **SEC. 602. BASELINE AND COST CONTROLS.**

14 Section 30104(e)(1)(A) of title 51, United States
15 Code, is amended—

16 (1) in clause (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

17 (2) in clause (iii) by striking “and” at the end;

18 and

19 (3) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(iv) any changes made in the per-
21 formance or schedule milestones and the
22 degree to which such changes have contrib-
23 uted to the increase in total cost;

24 “(v) new estimates of the specific
25 project or specific program cost; and

1 “(vi) a statement validating that the
2 management structure of the project or
3 program is adequate to control cost; and”.

4 **SEC. 603. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 301 of title 51, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

8 **“§ 30105. Concurrent reports**

9 “For any report that the Administration submits to
10 the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
11 resentatives or the Committee on Appropriations of the
12 Senate, the Administrator shall concurrently submit such
13 report to the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-
14 nology of the House of Representatives and the Com-
15 merce, Science, and Transportation Committee of the Sen-
16 ate.”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
18 tions for chapter 301 of title 51, United States Code, is
19 amended by adding at the end the following:

“30105. Concurrent reports.”.

20 **SEC. 604. INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL**
21 **STANDARDS.**

22 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

23 (1) section 71301 of title 51, United States
24 Code, directs the Administrator to “enter into dis-
25 cussions with the appropriate representatives of

1 spacefaring nations who have or plan to have crew
2 transportation systems capable of orbital flight or
3 flight beyond low Earth orbit for the purpose of
4 agreeing on a common docking system standard”;

5 (2) the development of an international docking
6 standard has been beneficial in promoting Govern-
7 ment and private sector space exploration, interoper-
8 ability, and United States international leadership;

9 (3) NASA continues the development described
10 in paragraph (2) by coordinating the development of
11 joint international deep space interoperability stand-
12 ards; and

13 (4) the long-term goals of NASA, as described
14 in section 202(a) of the National Aeronautics and
15 Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42
16 U.S.C. 18312(a)), include expanding permanent
17 human presence beyond low-Earth orbit.

18 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
19 gress that—

20 (1) the plans of NASA for crewed exploration
21 beyond low-Earth orbit should involve a wide array
22 of partners to address the technological challenges of
23 deep space exploration;

24 (2) the development of common terminology
25 and concepts for spacecraft design and safety will

1 help promote NASA leadership in space and space-
2 craft design;

3 (3) the adoption of common design and safety
4 terminology and concepts across NASA would enable
5 NASA to pursue the long-term goals of NASA, de-
6 scribed in section 202(a) of the National Aero-
7 nautics and Space Administration Authorization Act
8 of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18312(a)), in a manner that is
9 effective and efficient; and

10 (4) NASA should continue to develop and pro-
11 mote common terminology and concepts for space-
12 craft design and safety.

13 **SEC. 605. NASA CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY WATCH**
14 **LIST.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish
16 and maintain a watch list of contractors with a history
17 of poor performance on space procurement contracts or
18 research, development, test, and evaluation space program
19 contracts.

20 (b) BASIS FOR INCLUSION ON LIST.—

21 (1) DETERMINATION.—The Administrator may
22 place a contractor, including parties contracting
23 under other transaction authorities, on the watch list
24 established under subsection (a) upon determining
25 that the ability of the contractor to perform a con-

1 tract specified in such subsection is uncertain be-
2 cause of any of the following:

3 (A) Poor performance or award fee scores
4 below 50 percent.

5 (B) Financial concerns.

6 (C) Felony convictions or civil judgements.

7 (D) Security or foreign ownership and con-
8 trol issues.

9 (2) DISCRETION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

10 The Administrator shall be responsible for deter-
11 mining which contractors to place on the watch list,
12 whether an entire company or a specific division
13 should be included, and when to remove a contractor
14 from the list.

15 (c) EFFECT OF LISTING.—

16 (1) PRIME CONTRACTS.—NASA may not solicit
17 an offer from, award a contract to, execute an engi-
18 neering change proposal with, or exercise an option
19 on any program of NASA with a contractor included
20 on the list established under subsection (a) without
21 the prior direct approval of the Administrator.

22 (2) SUBCONTRACTS.—A prime contractor on a
23 contract entered into with NASA may not enter into
24 a subcontract valued in excess of \$3,000,000 or five
25 percent of the prime contract value, whichever is

1 lesser, with a contractor included on the watch list
2 established under subsection (a) without the prior
3 approval of the Administrator.

4 (d) **REQUEST FOR REMOVAL FROM LIST.**—A con-
5 tractor may submit to the Administrator a written request
6 for removal from the watch list, including evidence that
7 the contractor has resolved the issue that was the basis
8 for inclusion on the list.

9 (e) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
10 tion shall be construed as preventing the suspension or
11 debarment of a contractor, but inclusion on the watch list
12 shall not be construed as a punitive measure or de facto
13 suspension or debarment of a contractor.

14 **SEC. 606. HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION RISK.**

15 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

16 (1) American leadership in the peaceful explo-
17 ration and use of outer space has been a long-stand-
18 ing priority for the United States.

19 (2) The reestablishment of the National Space
20 Council by President Trump demonstrates the stra-
21 tegic importance of outer space to the Nation.

22 (3) The December 2017 National Security
23 Strategy of the United States establishes the broad
24 strategic importance of outer space exploration and
25 use for the United States.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that—

3 (1) exploration and use of outer space is a mat-
4 ter of broad, national strategic importance; and

5 (2) space exploration decision-making and re-
6 quirement-setting in such a strategic context is com-
7 plex, especially with respect to setting appropriate
8 priorities and levels of risk tolerance.

9 (c) REPORT ON INHERENT JUSTIFIABLE RISK.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
11 the date of enactment of this Act, the National
12 Space Council, or its designee, shall submit to Con-
13 gress and make available to the public a report re-
14 lating the broad strategic national importance of
15 space to the inherent, justifiable risk of the explo-
16 ration and use of space.

17 (2) POLICY AND STRATEGY.—The Adminis-
18 trator shall engage with appropriate members of the
19 private sector, academia, and nonprofit organiza-
20 tions on a policy and strategy of enterprise-level en-
21 gineering and operational risk management to
22 present in the report that addresses inherent, justifi-
23 able risks of loss of life that may occur in space ex-
24 ploration and use.

1 (3) CONTENTS.—The report required under
2 paragraph (1) shall—

3 (A) clarify the broad strategic case and
4 value of space;

5 (B) address inherent, justifiable risks of
6 loss of life that may occur in space exploration
7 and use; and

8 (C) discuss enterprise- and architecture-
9 level approaches for exploration risk manage-
10 ment.

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