



Legislative Bulletin.....July 22, 2005

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H.R. 3070—Amendments to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005

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H.R. 3070, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act (sponsored by Rep. Ken Calvert), is scheduled to be considered on the House floor on Friday, July 22, 2005, subject to a structured rule (H.Res. 370). Below are the summaries of the 6 amendments made in order under the rule. Note: summaries are based on RSC staff's review of actual amendment text. For a summary of the underlying bill, see a separate RSC document released earlier in the week.

1. Boehlert (R-NY) #8: Manager's Amendment. The manager's amendment increases total authorizations by \$1.259 billion (from 33.43 billion to 34.69 billion): FY06 by \$494.6 million (from \$16.47 billion to \$16.96 billion) and FY07 by \$764.8 million (from \$16.9 billion to \$17.72 billion). The FY06 increase would authorize \$490 million more than the House-passed FY06 \$16.47 billion. The amendment also expresses the Sense of Congress that NASA should return the Space Shuttle to flight as soon as the Administrator determines that it can be accomplished with an acceptable level of safety, and allows the Administrator to complete the International Space Station in such a configuration as to support fewer than six persons, but only after submitting a report to the Congress explaining why a six-person requirement should not be met. The amendment requires NASA to report information to Congress regarding minority participation in its education programs and authorizes NASA to provide grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with museums and planetariums to allow them to enhance their programs related to space and science. (20 minutes)

2. Velazquez (D-NY) #2: Requires the NASA Administrator to submit a quarterly report on the NASA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization including a description of the outreach activities of the Office and the impact of such activities on the participation of small businesses, including small businesses owned by women and minorities in NASA contracts. (10 minutes)

3. Jackson-Lee (D-TX) #6: Adds two suballocations in the FY06 authorizations: \$69.2 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and \$46.4 million for Hispanic Serving Institutions. The amendment also adds two suballocations in the FY07

authorizations: \$71.2 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and \$47.4 million for Hispanic Serving Institutions. (10 minutes)

4. Velazquez (D-NY) #3: Authorizes \$4 million over five years (\$20 million total) for the establishment a new pilot program to make grants to minority institutions for the development of NASA research and test facilities for use by NASA contractors. (10 minutes)

5. Costello (D-IL): #1: The amendment restricts the international agreement exception for NASA outsourcing only to agreements dealing with the International Space Station. Shown in red bold below, is the change made by the amendment if adopted.

Outsourcing - Unless there is a prior contract or an international agreement **on the International Space Station**, the bill prohibits NASA from:

1. Outsourcing contracts (under OMB Circular A-76) if the activity or function is performed by the contractor or any subcontractor at a location outside the United States, except with a Presidential national security waiver or if the NASA Administrator determines essential goods or services under the contract are only available from a source outside the United States.
2. Having a contract performed outside the United States unless it is to meet a requirement of the Administration for goods or services specifically at a location outside the United States.

According to Reps. Calvert and Boehlert, the amendment “would hamper NASA’s ability to work with our allies and to gain access to the most appropriate technology for its missions. The effect of the Costello amendment would be to block NASA’s efforts to work with our allies to build a truly international space program - something that is in the interest of the United States.”

6. Jackson-Lee (D-TX) #7: Requires NASA to submit to Congress a plan describing steps NASA will take to protect employees who do raise or have raised concerns about a potentially catastrophic risk to health or safety. (10 minutes)

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