

Calendar No. 198

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 434****[Report No. 119–87]**

To establish the Commercial Space Activity Advisory Committee, and for
other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. WICKER) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation

OCTOBER 21, 2025

Reported by Mr. CRUZ, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To establish the Commercial Space Activity Advisory
Committee, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Space Commerce Advi-
5 sory Committee Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
4 the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Of-
5 fice of Space Commerce.

6 (2) **SPACE OBJECT.**—The term “space ob-
7 ject”—

8 (A) means—

9 (i) a human-made object located in
10 outer space, including on the Moon or
11 other celestial bodies, with or without
12 human occupants, that was launched from
13 Earth, such as a satellite or a spacecraft,
14 including component parts of the object;
15 and

16 (ii) all items carried on such object
17 that are intended for use in outer space
18 outside of, and independent of, the oper-
19 ation of such object;

20 (B) includes any human-made object that
21 is—

22 (i) manufactured or assembled in
23 outer space; and

24 (ii) intended for operations in outer
25 space other than, and independent of, the

operations of such object in which the
 manufacturing or assembly occurred; and
 (C) does not include—

(i) an article aboard a space object
 that is only intended for use inside the
 space object;

(ii) an article manufactured or proc-
 essed in outer space that is a material; or

(iii) an article intended for use outside
 a space object as part of the authorized op-
 erations of the space object.

(3) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
 the several States of the United States, the District
 of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the
 United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American
 Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
 Islands, and any other commonwealth, territory, or
 possession of the United States.

(4) UNITED STATES ENTITY.—The term
 “United States entity” means—

(A) an individual who is a national of the
 United States (as defined in section 101(a) of
 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
 1101(a))); and

1 ~~(B)~~ a nongovernmental entity organized or
 2 existing under, and subject to, the laws of the
 3 United States or a State.

4 **SEC. 3. COMMERCIAL SPACE ACTIVITY ADVISORY COM-**
 5 **MITTEE.**

6 ~~(a)~~ ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
 7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
 8 establish a Commercial Space Activity Advisory Com-
 9 mittee (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

10 ~~(b)~~ MEMBERSHIP.—

11 ~~(1)~~ IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall be
 12 composed of 15 members appointed by the Sec-
 13 retary.

14 ~~(2)~~ QUALIFICATIONS.—

15 ~~(A)~~ IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall be
 16 composed of representatives from a variety of
 17 space policy, engineering, technical, science,
 18 legal, and finance fields who have significant
 19 experience in the commercial space industry.

20 ~~(B)~~ LIMITATION.—

21 ~~(i)~~ IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
 22 in clause (i), the Secretary may not ap-
 23 point as a member of the Committee any
 24 employee or official of the Federal Govern-
 25 ment.

1 (ii) ~~EXCEPTION.~~—The Secretary may
 2 appoint as a member of the Committee a
 3 special government employee (as defined in
 4 section 202(a) of title 18, United States
 5 Code) who serves on 1 or more other Fed-
 6 eral advisory committees.

7 (3) ~~TERM.~~—Each individual appointed as a
 8 member of the Committee—

9 (A) shall be appointed for a term of 4
 10 years; and

11 (B) during the 2-year period beginning on
 12 the date on which such term ends, may not
 13 serve as a member of the Committee.

14 (c) ~~DUTIES.~~—The duties of the Committee shall be—

15 (1) to advise on the status and recent develop-
 16 ments of nongovernmental space activities;

17 (2) to provide to the Secretary and Congress
 18 recommendations on the manner in which the
 19 United States may facilitate and promote a robust
 20 and innovative commercial sector that is investing
 21 in, developing, and operating space objects;

22 (3) to identify any challenge faced by the
 23 United States commercial sector relating to—

1 (A) international obligations of the United
 2 States relevant to commercial space sector ac-
 3 tivities in outer space;

4 (B) export controls that affect the com-
 5 mercial space sector;

6 (C) harmful interference with commercial
 7 space sector activities in outer space; and

8 (D) access to adequate, predictable, and
 9 reliable radio frequency spectrum;

10 (4) to review existing best practices for United
 11 States entities to avoid—

12 (A) the harmful contamination of the
 13 Moon and other celestial bodies; and

14 (B) adverse changes in the environment of
 15 the Earth resulting from the introduction of ex-
 16 traterrestrial matter; and

17 (5) to provide information, advice, and rec-
 18 ommendations on matters relating to—

19 (A) United States commercial space sector
 20 activities in outer space; and

21 (B) other commercial space sector activi-
 22 ties, as the Committee considers necessary.

23 (d) TERMINATION.—The Committee shall terminate
 24 on the date that is 10 years after the date on which the
 25 Committee is established.

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Space Commerce Advi-*
 3 *sory Committee Act”.*

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 *In this Act:*

6 (1) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
 7 *the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Office*
 8 *of Space Commerce.*

9 (2) *STATE.*—*The term “State” means each of the*
 10 *several States of the United States, the District of Co-*
 11 *lumbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the*
 12 *United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American*
 13 *Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana*
 14 *Islands, and any other commonwealth, territory, or*
 15 *possession of the United States.*

16 (3) *UNITED STATES ENTITY.*—*The term “United*
 17 *States entity” means—*

18 (A) *an individual who is a national of the*
 19 *United States (as defined in section 101(a) of the*
 20 *Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.*
 21 *1101(a))); and*

22 (B) *a nongovernmental entity organized or*
 23 *existing under, and subject to, the laws of the*
 24 *United States or a State.*

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 2 **MITTEE.**

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 4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
 5 establish a Commercial Space Activity Advisory Committee
 6 (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

7 (b) *MEMBERSHIP.*—

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Committee shall be com-
 9 posed of 15 members appointed by the Secretary.

10 (2) *QUALIFICATIONS.*—

11 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Committee shall be
 12 composed of representatives from a variety of
 13 space policy, engineering, technical, science,
 14 legal, academic, and finance fields who have sig-
 15 nificant experience in the commercial space in-
 16 dustry, which may include previous Government
 17 experience.

18 (B) *LIMITATION.*—

19 (i) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided
 20 in clause (i), the Secretary may not appoint
 21 as a member of the Committee any em-
 22 ployee or official of the Federal Government.

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 24 appoint as a member of the Committee a
 25 special government employee (as defined in
 26 section 202(a) of title 18, United States

1 Code) who serves on 1 or more other Federal
2 advisory committees.

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4 member of the Committee—

5 (A) shall be appointed for a term of not
6 more than 4 years; and

7 (B) during the 2-year period beginning on
8 the date on which such term ends, may not serve
9 as a member of the Committee.

10 (c) *DUTIES.*—The duties of the Committee shall be—

11 (1) to advise on the status and recent develop-
12 ments of nongovernmental space activities;

13 (2) to provide to the Secretary and Congress rec-
14 ommendations on the manner in which the United
15 States may facilitate and promote a safe, sustainable,
16 robust, competitive, and innovative commercial sector
17 that is investing in, developing, and conducting space
18 activities within the jurisdiction of the Department of
19 Commerce, including through the development and
20 implementation of any regulatory framework applica-
21 ble to the commercial space industry;

22 (3) to identify, and provide recommendations in
23 response to, any challenge faced by the United States
24 commercial sector relating to—

1 (A) the application of international obliga-
 2 tions of the United States relevant to commercial
 3 space sector activities in outer space;

4 (B) export controls that affect the commer-
 5 cial space sector;

6 (C) harmful interference with commercial
 7 space sector activities in outer space; and

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 9 liable radio frequency spectrum;

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 11 States entities to avoid—

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