

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5388

To establish an interagency aerospace revitalization task force to develop a national strategy for aerospace workforce cultivation, training, and recruitment.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2004

Mr. EHLERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish an interagency aerospace revitalization task force to develop a national strategy for aerospace workforce cultivation, training, and recruitment.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) The aerospace industry generates nearly 15
6 percent of the gross domestic product of the United
7 States, supports approximately 11,000,000 jobs in
8 the United States, and leads the United States econ-
9 omy in net exports.

1 (2) The aerospace industry contributes directly
2 to the economic and national security of the United
3 States through military, space, air transport, and in-
4 formation technology applications.

5 (3) A skilled and educated workforce represents
6 the most valuable asset of the United States econ-
7 omy.

8 (4) Total employment in the aerospace industry
9 stands at its lowest point in 50 years.

10 (5) 27 percent of the aerospace manufacturing
11 workforce will become eligible for retirement by
12 2008.

13 (6) Students in the United States rank near the
14 bottom of the leading industrialized countries of the
15 world in mathematics and science test performance.

16 (7) To ensure the security of high-skilled jobs
17 and the global competitiveness of the domestic aero-
18 space industry, the United States requires coordi-
19 nated Federal Government policies to sustain and
20 expand the science, mathematics, engineering, and
21 manufacturing workforce.

22 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY AEROSPACE REVITALIZATION TASK**
23 **FORCE.**

24 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a task
25 force to be known as the “Interagency Aerospace Revital-

1 ization Task Force” (in this section referred to as the
2 “Task Force”).

3 (b) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall develop a na-
4 tional strategy for aerospace workforce development, in-
5 cluding strategies for—

6 (1) maximizing cooperation among departments
7 and agencies of the Federal Government and the use
8 of resources of the Federal Government in fulfilling
9 demand for a skilled workforce across all vocational
10 classifications;

11 (2) developing integrated Federal Government
12 policies to promote and monitor public and private
13 sector programs for science, engineering, technology,
14 mathematics, and skilled trades education and train-
15 ing; and

16 (3) establishing partnerships with industry, or-
17 ganized labor, academia, and State and local govern-
18 ments to—

19 (A) collect and disseminate information on
20 occupational requirements and projected em-
21 ployment openings; and

22 (B) coordinate appropriate agency re-
23 sources, including grants, loans, and scholar-
24 ships, for the advancement of workforce edu-
25 cation, training, and certification programs.

1 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

2 (1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Task
3 Force shall be composed of 9 members who shall be
4 appointed as follows:

5 (A) One member shall be the Assistant
6 Secretary of Labor for Employment and Train-
7 ing.

8 (B) One member shall be a representative
9 of the Department of Commerce and shall be
10 appointed by the Secretary of Commerce.

11 (C) One member shall be a representative
12 of the Department of Defense and shall be ap-
13 pointed by the Secretary of Defense.

14 (D) One member shall be a representative
15 of the Department of Education and shall be
16 appointed by the Secretary of Education.

17 (E) One member shall be a representative
18 of the Department of Transportation and shall
19 be appointed by the Secretary of Transpor-
20 tation.

21 (F) One member shall be a representative
22 of the Department of Energy and shall be ap-
23 pointed by the Secretary of Energy.

24 (G) One member shall be a representative
25 of the National Aeronautics and Space Admin-

1 istration (NASA) and shall be appointed by the
2 Administrator of NASA.

3 (H) One member shall be a representative
4 of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and
5 shall be appointed by the Director of the NSF.

6 (I) One member shall be appointed by the
7 President.

8 (2) CHAIRPERSON.—The Assistant Secretary of
9 Labor for Employment and Training shall serve as
10 the chairperson of the Task Force.

11 (3) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—Each
12 member shall be appointed to the Task Force not
13 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment
14 of this Act.

15 (4) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Task Force
16 shall be filled in the manner in which the original
17 appointment was made.

18 (5) PROHIBITION OF COMPENSATION.—Mem-
19 bers of the Task Force may not receive pay, allow-
20 ances, or benefits by reason of their service on the
21 Task Force.

22 (d) MEETINGS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall meet
24 at the call of the Chairperson.

1 (2) FREQUENCY.—The Task Force shall meet
2 not less than two times each year.

3 (3) QUORUM.—5 members of the Task Force
4 shall constitute a quorum.

5 (e) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
7 thereafter for four years, the Task Force shall submit to
8 Congress, and make available to the public, a report con-
9 taining the findings, recommendations, policies, and initia-
10 tives developed pursuant to the duties of the Task Force
11 under subsection (b).

12 (f) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate
13 on the date of the submission of the final report under
14 subsection (e).

○