

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2219, OFFERED BY CONGRESSMAN POSEY (FL-15)

**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this amendment and commend my friend Congressman POSEY for his work on this jobs initiative.

Florida is home to Kennedy Space Center, the heart of NASA's space shuttle program. With tens of thousands of highly-skilled men and women currently working on the Space Coast in support of NASA's human space flight program, their jobs are threatened by the Administration's decision to end the shuttle program and cancel Constellation without a viable plan for the future of space exploration. These jobs will be lost, possibly forever, and in the midst of a housing and economic recession not seen in Florida in decades. Mr. Speaker, the truth is that the Space Coast cannot afford to lose these jobs.

That is why I am proud to stand with Mr. POSEY in support of this much needed amendment. Make no mistake, this is a jobs amendment—one that will help support families and small businesses throughout Central Florida. Specifically this amendment commits the Department of Defense to use the National Shuttle Logistics Depot to the greatest extent practicable and to assist in the preservation of our highly skilled aerospace and engineering workforce. By utilizing already existing infrastructure and a trained workforce, the government can leverage this unique skill set to advance our nation's space and defense missions at minimal cost to the American taxpayer.

The aerospace workers across the country have already been hit by an economy struggling under the tax and spend policies of the President and now, without a solid plan from NASA on what is next for the space program, the industry base will simply disappear. This is an easy way for the federal government to utilize the resources we already have to help create aerospace jobs throughout the country, without throwing away decades of technology

and laying off tens of thousands of highly skilled workers.

Mr. Speaker, when governments like China are gearing up for the next big explosion in space industry and technologies, preserving this workforce is not just about ensuring people have jobs—it is about the national security interests of our nation.

If we lose this national asset, I fear we will forever be remembered as the country that gave up the last frontier. One that looked to the stars and told the world we weren't interested.

I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this jobs amendment to help save a workforce we desperately need.

INTRODUCING AMENDMENT TO  
THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS  
BILL

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 6, 2011*

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce an amendment to the Defense Appropriations bill that directs the Secretary of Defense to utilize to the fullest extent practicable the incredible resource that exists at the NASA Shuttle Logistics Depot, NSLD, in Central Florida.

The Department of Defense would be well served to make greater use of the facility's unique manufacturing capabilities and highly-skilled workforce for Department of Defense supply chain and repair needs. The loss of this facility and its workforce would not only be a blow to our nation's space program but represent a missed opportunity to serve U.S. national security interests.

The unique combination of technologically-advanced equipment used in the 300,000 sq. ft. NSLD facility for aerospace manufacturing, repair, and overhaul combined with the critical workforce is extremely capable of providing warfighter support for our military. Although the NSLD's operator, the United Space Alliance, USA, has procured a recent DLA contract, the work is not enough to maintain the NSLD.

This irreplaceable workforce will go elsewhere once the Shuttle Program comes to an end. The skills the NSLD facility and personnel offer are a direct match to those the DoD needs to reduce the risk of vanishing vendors and diminishing manufacturing sources in its supply chain. USA's performance-based logistics operations have maintained on-time delivery greater than 98 percent, and a customer acceptance rate of 99.99 percent.

USA has managed NASA assets of 250,000 unique part numbers valued at \$1.5 billion per year. During the Shuttle Program, over 80 OEM hardware repair or manufacturing tasks—260 Orbiter Line Replaceable Units comprised of over 7,000 line items—were transitioned to and certified by USA at the NSLD. By Shuttle Program end, more than 80 percent of all completed Orbiter Line Replaceable Unit repairs were done at NSLD by USA resources.

This Amendment is directly tied to jobs. The final flight of the Space Shuttle Orbiter, scheduled for Friday, sets the stage for a mass exodus of highly skilled labor and specialized resources from Florida's Space Coast. This void will further strain our economy and dilute the workforce and capabilities needed to sustain the technologies required to achieve the diversification of Florida's economy.

Aside from being a great asset to the Department of Defense, greater utilization of this important asset will keep the facility functioning as we look to NASA's next mission. This workforce would have been sustained as NASA transitioned to the Constellation Program, that is before it was vitiated. The retirement of the Shuttle Program presents an excellent opportunity for the Department of Defense, the Defense Logistics Agency specifically, to take advantage of the highly skilled workforce as they process and refurbish equipment returning from theater in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is an opportunity which can preserve a national asset, preserve jobs, and assist the Department of Defense in cycling through the equipment returning from combat.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I am submitting this amendment to encourage DoD to make better use of this rich resource so that it does not winnow away.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 7, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 12

10 a.m.

## Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine enhanced investor protection after the financial crisis.

SD-538

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1160, to improve the administration of the Department of Energy, S. 1108, to provide local communities with tools to make solar permitting more efficient, and S. 1142, to promote the mapping and development of the United States geothermal resources by establishing a direct loan program for high risk geothermal exploration wells, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve geothermal energy technology and demonstrate the use of geothermal energy in large scale thermal applications.

SD-366

## Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act's Unregulated Drinking Water Contaminants Program.

SD-406

10:15 a.m.

## Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine manufacturing in the United States of America, focusing on training America's workforce.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

## Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine if new technology and private sector business

practices can cut waste and fraud in Medicare and Medicaid.

SD-342

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine pensions, focusing on building a strong middle class and strong economy.

SD-430

## Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 13

10 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine unauthorized charges on telephone bills, focusing on why cramers win and consumers lose.

SR-253

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 958, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program of payments to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs, S. 1094, to reauthorize the Combating Autism Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-416), an original bill entitled, "Workforce Investment Act Reauthorization of 2011", and any pending nominations.

Room to be announced

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine ten years after 9/11, focusing on preventing terrorist travel.

SD-342

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the "Violence Against Women Act", focusing on building on seventeen years of accomplishments.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Morgan Christen, of Alaska, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Scott Wesley Skavdahl, to be United States District Judge for the District of Wyoming, Sharon L. Gleason, to be United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, and Richard G. Andrews, to be United States District Judge for the District of Delaware.

SD-226

## Armed Services

## SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the required force level of strategic airlift aircraft mandated by title 10, United States Code, and the administration's request to eliminate that requirement in review of the Defense Authorization Request and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

3 p.m.

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Paul D. Wohlert, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Macedonia, William H. Moser, of North Carolina, to be Ambassador to

the Republic of Moldova, John A. Heffern, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia, Thomas M. Countryman, of Washington, to be Assistant Secretary for International Security and Non-Proliferation, Jeffrey DeLaurentis, of New York, to be Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be an Alternate Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

JULY 14

10 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-366

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine learning from what works for employment for persons with disabilities.

SD-430

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

## Science and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the National Nanotechnology Investment, focusing on manufacturing, commercialization, and job creation.

SR-253

2:15 p.m.

## Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine native women.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

## Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 21

2:15 p.m.

## Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine floods and fires, focusing on emergency preparedness for natural disasters in the native communities.

SD-628

JULY 27

2 p.m.

## Armed Services

## Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine financial management and business transformation at the Department of Defense.

SR-232A

JULY 28

2:15 p.m.

## Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine enforcing the "Indian Gaming Regulatory Act", focusing on the role of the National Indian Gaming Commission and tribes as regulators.

SD-628