

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10464

To amend chapter 511 of title 51, United States Code, to modify the authority for space transportation infrastructure modernization grants, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 17, 2024

Mr. STRONG (for himself and Mr. FONG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To amend chapter 511 of title 51, United States Code, to modify the authority for space transportation infrastructure modernization grants, 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 “Spaceport Project Op-
5 portunities for Resilient Transportation Act” or the
6 “SPACEPORT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SPACE LAUNCH INFRASTRUCTURE.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Paragraph (5) of section 51101
3 of title 51, United States Code, is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 “(5) ‘public agency’ means a State or an agen-
6 cy of a State, a political subdivision of a State, a
7 public corporation, or a tax-supported organiza-
8 tion.”.

9 (b) MODIFICATION OF GRANT AUTHORITY.—Sub-
10 section (b) of section 51102 of title 51, United States
11 Code, is amended to read as follows:

12 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make a
14 project grant under this chapter only if the grant
15 will not be for more than 80 percent of the total cost
16 of the project.

17 “(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the
18 application of paragraph (1) if the Secretary deter-
19 mines that such a waiver is in the national inter-
20 est.”.

21 (c) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—Section 51103 of title
22 51, United States Code, is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (b)—

24 (A) in paragraph (1)—

25 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking

26 “the United States Government’s space

1 transportation needs” and inserting “the
2 civil, national security, and commercial
3 space transportation needs of the United
4 States”;

5 (ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking
6 “contributions” and inserting “support”;
7 and

8 (iii) by amending subparagraph (F) to
9 read as follows:

10 “(F) the impact of the project and launch
11 or reentry operations and other activities at
12 Government launch ranges, as needed.”;

13 (B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as
14 follows:

15 “(2) The Secretary of Transportation shall develop
16 specific criteria for evaluating and selecting proposed
17 projects based on the considerations under paragraph
18 (1).”; and

19 (C) by adding at the end the following new
20 paragraph:

21 “(3) The Secretary of Transportation shall consult
22 with the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of the
23 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Sec-
24 retary of Commerce, and the heads of other appropriate

1 agencies of the Government with respect to subparagraphs
2 (A) and (F) of paragraph (1), as appropriate.”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
4 section:

5 “(e) FUNDING OF PROGRAM.—Activities carried out
6 under this section shall be funded only through appropria-
7 tions approved by Congress and not through user fees or
8 other funds.”.

9 (d) REPORT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
11 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
12 of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary
13 of Defense, the Administrator of the National Aero-
14 nautics and Space Administration, the Secretary of
15 Commerce, and the heads of other appropriate agen-
16 cies of the Government, shall submit to Congress a
17 report that—

18 (A) evaluates the demand for space trans-
19 portation services, including the civil, national
20 security, and commercial space transportation
21 needs of the United States and international
22 commercial markets;

23 (B) provides legislative, regulatory, and
24 policy recommendations to ensure robust and

1 resilient space transportation capabilities in
2 support of the national space policy;

3 (C) examines a range of long-term funding
4 options and related considerations for space
5 transportation infrastructure projects; and

6 (D) provides an assessment of inter-
7 national space transportation capabilities and
8 investments, including recommendations for
9 maintaining United States competitiveness and
10 developing an international space transportation
11 network.

12 (2) UPDATES.—Not later than 6 years after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, and every 4 years
14 thereafter, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

15 (A) update the report submitted under
16 paragraph (1); and

17 (B) submit such updated report to Con-
18 gress.

19 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
20 51105 of title 51, United States Code, is amended by
21 striking “Not more than” and all that follows through the
22 period at the end and inserting “There is authorized to
23 be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for
24 each fiscal year not more than \$10,000,000 to make
25 grants under this chapter.”.

1 (f) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

2 (1) CHAPTER HEADING.—The heading of chap-
 3 ter 511 of title 51, United States Code, is amended
 4 to read as follows:

5 **“CHAPTER 511—SPACE TRANSPORTATION**
 6 **INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION**
 7 **GRANTS”.**

8 (2) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The table of chap-
 9 ters at the beginning of title 51, United States Code,
 10 is amended by striking the item relating to chapter
 11 511 and inserting the following:

**“511. Space Transportation Infrastructure Moderniza-
 tion Grants51101”.**

