

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6638

To require a report on merits and options for establishing an institute relating to space resources, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2025

Mrs. FOUSHEE (for herself and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To require a report on merits and options for establishing an institute relating to space resources, 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. REPORT ON MERITS AND OPTIONS FOR ESTAB-**
4 **LISHING AN INSTITUTE RELATING TO SPACE**
5 **RESOURCES.**

6 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
7 of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Na-
8 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and
9 Secretary of Commerce shall jointly submit to the Com-

1 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
2 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
3 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the
4 merits of, and options for, establishing an institute relat-
5 ing to space resources to advance the objectives of NASA
6 and the Department of Commerce in maintaining United
7 States preeminence in space. Such objectives shall include
8 the following:

9 (1) Identifying, developing, and distributing
10 space resources, including by encouraging the devel-
11 opment of foundational science, industrial capability,
12 and technology.

13 (2) Reducing the technological and business
14 risks associated with identifying, developing, and dis-
15 tributing space resources.

16 (3) Research to maximize the responsible use of
17 space resources.

18 (4) Developing options for using space re-
19 sources to carry out the following.

20 (A) Support current and future space ar-
21 chitectures, programs, business, and missions.

22 (B) Enable such architectures, programs,
23 business, and missions that would not otherwise
24 be possible.

1 (C) Supplement the supply of such re-
2 sources available on Earth.

3 (b) ADDITIONAL MATTERS.—The report required
4 under subsection (a) shall also include the following as-
5 sessments of the Administrator of NASA and the Sec-
6 retary of Commerce:

7 (1) Whether a virtual or physical institute relat-
8 ing to space resources is most cost effective and ap-
9 propriate.

10 (2) Whether partnering with institutions of
11 higher education and the aerospace industry, and
12 the extractive industry as appropriate, would be ef-
13 fective in increasing information available to the in-
14 stitute with respect to advancing the objectives de-
15 scribed in such subsection.

16 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY.—The term “ex-
18 tractive industry” means companies and individuals
19 involved in the processes of extracting, including
20 mining, quarrying, drilling, and dredging, raw, nat-
21 ural materials or energy sources.

22 (2) INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
23 term “institution of higher education” has the
24 meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the
25 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

1 (3) SPACE RESOURCE.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “space re-
3 source” means an abiotic resource in situ in
4 outer space.

5 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “space re-
6 source” includes a raw, natural material or en-
7 ergy source.

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