AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-54

OFFERED BY MR. CARTER OF GEORGIA

Page 1691, after line 20, insert the following:

SEC. 40002. LAUNCH SITES AND REENTRY SITES.

Section 50905(b) of Title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (6) as paragraphs (4) through (7), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in evaluating a license application for the operation of a launch site or reentry site pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.), the Secretary shall:

“(A) evaluate only those launch or reentry site locations proposed by the applicant and a no-action alternative;

“(B) evaluate proposed operations based on a representative launch vehicle and representative launch or reentry trajectory or tra-
jectories specified by the applicant in its license application;

“(C) include launch vehicles or launch or reentry trajectories that present environmental impacts and safety risks that are equivalent to or less than those of the representative launch vehicles and launch or reentry trajectories used for review, to be within the scope of review of the representative launch vehicle and launch or reentry trajectory’s impacts, such that further environmental review under subparagraph (D) is not required before the Secretary may license the launch site or launch operations involving such launch vehicles or launch or reentry trajectories;

“(D) for the purposes of environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, use one of the following:

“(i) a Categorical Exclusion for applications proposing new launch or reentry sites at existing airports;

“(ii) an Environmental Assessment which may be prepared and submitted to the Secretary by the applicant, for sites that are not at existing airports; and
“(iii) an Environmental Impact Statement for sites where effects may be significant and cannot be rendered less than significant with mitigation;

“(E) complete the environmental review and issue a final decision on the license application within 180 days after submission of a complete application for license applications requiring a Categorical Exclusion or Environmental Assessment under subparagraph (D);

“(F) complete the environmental review and issue a decision on the license application within 2 years after submission of a complete application by an applicant for applications requiring an Environmental Impact Statement under subparagraph (D);

“(G) determine whether an application is complete within 30 days of the application’s submission;

“(H) deem an application complete once all information required by regulations set forth in accordance with the Secretary’s authorities under this chapter is submitted; and

“(I) not require any environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy
Act to be completed before an application may be deemed complete.”; and
(3) in paragraph (5)—
   (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “paragraph (6)(A)” and inserting “paragraph (7)(A)”;
   and
   (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “paragraph (6)” and inserting “paragraph (7)”