AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT FOR
H.R. 6395
OFFERED BY MR. WEBER OF TEXAS

Add at the end of subtitle E of title XVII the following new section:

SEC. ___. CONTINUATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.

(a) PRESENCE IN LOW-EARTH ORBIT.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(A) it is in the national and economic security interests of the United States to maintain a continuous human presence in low-Earth orbit;

(B) the International Space Station is a strategic national security asset vital to the continued space exploration and scientific advancements of the United States; and

(C) low-Earth orbit should be utilized as a testbed to advance human space exploration, scientific discoveries, and United States economic competitiveness and commercial participation.
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(2) HUMAN PRESENCE REQUIREMENT.—The
United States shall continuously maintain the capa-
bility for a continuous human presence in low-Earth
orbit through and beyond the useful life of the Inter-
national Space Station.

(b) MAINTAINING A NATIONAL LABORATORY IN
SPACE.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
Congress that—

(A) the United States national laboratory
in space, which currently consists of the United
States segment of the International Space Sta-
tion (designated as a national laboratory under
section 70905 of title 51, United States
Code)—

(i) benefits the scientific community
and promotes commerce in space;

(ii) fosters stronger relationships
among the National Aeronautics and Space
Administration (referred to in this section
as “NASA”) and other Federal agencies,
the private sector, and research groups and
universities;

(iii) advances science, technology, en-
gineering, and mathematics education
through utilization of the unique micro-
gravity environment; and

(iv) advances human knowledge and
international cooperation;

(B) after the International Space Station
is decommissioned, the United States should
maintain a national microgravity laboratory in
space;

(C) in maintaining a national microgravity
laboratory described in subparagraph (B), the
United States should make appropriate accom-
modations for different types of ownership and
operational structures for the International
Space Station and future space stations;

(D) the national microgravity laboratory
described in subparagraph (B) should be main-
tained beyond the date on which the Inter-
national Space Station is decommissioned and,
if possible, in cooperation with international
space partners to the extent practicable; and

(E) NASA should continue to support fund-
damental science research on future platforms
in low-Earth orbit and cis-lunar space, short
duration suborbital flights, drop towers, and
other microgravity testing environments.
(2) REPORT.—The Administrator of NASA shall produce, in coordination with the National Space Council and other Federal agencies as the Administrator considers relevant, a report detailing the feasibility of establishing a microgravity national laboratory Federally Funded Research and Development Center to undertake the work related to the study and utilization of in-space conditions.

(e) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 501(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18351(a)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”.

(2) MAINTENANCE OF THE UNITED STATES SEGMENT AND ASSURANCE OF CONTINUED OPERATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.—Section 503(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18353(a)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”.

(3) RESEARCH CAPACITY ALLOCATION AND INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH PAYLOADS.—Section 504(d) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C.
18354(d)) is amended by striking “2024” each place it appears and inserting “2030”.

(4) MAINTAINING USE THROUGH AT LEAST 2030.—Section 70907 of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the section heading, by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”; and

(B) by striking “2024” each place it appears and inserting “2030”.

(d) TRANSITION PLAN REPORTS.—Section 50111(c)(2) of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2023” and inserting “2028”; and

(2) in subparagraph (J), by striking “2028” and inserting “2030”.

(e) EXEMPTION FROM THE IRAN, NORTH KOREA, AND SYRIA NONPROLIFERATION ACT.—Section 7(1) of the Iran, North Korea, and Syria Nonproliferation Act (Public Law 106–178; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended, in the undesignated matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “December 31, 2025” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

(f) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES ON INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
of Defense shall—

(A) identify and review each activity, pro-
gram, and project of the Department of De-
fense completed, being carried out, or planned
to be carried out on the International Space
Station as of the date of the review; and

(B) provide to the appropriate committees
of Congress a briefing that describes the results
of the review.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS
DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
priate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
portation, and the Committee on Appropria-
tions of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology,
and the Committee on Appropriations of the
House of Representatives.