

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3804

To direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to conduct a study on the feasibility of carrying out a grant program to assist communities affected by noise from space launch activities of the Department of Defense.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2025

Mr. CARBAJAL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to conduct a study on the feasibility of carrying out a grant program to assist communities affected by noise from space launch activities of the Department of Defense.

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 “Space Launch Noise  
5       Mitigation Study Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7       It is the sense of Congress that—

1           (1) the commercial space launch industry is a  
2           fundamental part of United States national security  
3           and contributes greatly to assured access to space;

4           (2) United States national security benefits  
5           from a competitive and diverse launch industry;

6           (3) space services are critical to sectors includ-  
7           ing transportation, communication, agriculture, fi-  
8           nancial services, and others; and

9           (4) as referenced in the report of the Com-  
10          mittee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-  
11          resentatives accompanying H.R. 8070 of the 118th  
12          Congress, the increase of launches as a result of na-  
13          tional security and commercial launches can be dis-  
14          ruptive to nearby communities.

15 **SEC. 3. STUDY ON SPACE LAUNCH NOISE MITIGATION.**

16          (a) STUDY.—Not later than one year after the date  
17          of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of De-  
18          fense for Acquisition and Sustainment shall complete a  
19          study on the feasibility of conducting a space launch noise  
20          mitigation grant program.

21          (b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The study under sub-  
22          section (a) shall include the following:

23               (1) An estimate of funds necessary to carry out  
24               a space launch noise mitigation grant program, in-  
25               cluding estimated breakdowns for different covered

1 facilities, and how many covered facilities are in  
2 each eligible community.

3 (2) Recommendations on the geographic range  
4 for which communities shall be eligible.

5 (3) Recommendations on noise mitigating tech-  
6 niques and technologies for eligible communities, and  
7 the estimated cost for each recommendation.

8 (4) Recommendations for ways the Space Force  
9 can work better with eligible communities to avoid  
10 noise disturbances.

11 (5) Recommendations for a community out-  
12 reach program to educate eligible communities near  
13 launch ranges on the benefits of space.

14 (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the study  
15 under subsection (a), the Under Secretary of Defense, in  
16 consultation with the Commanders of Space Launch Delta  
17 30 and Space Launch Delta 45, shall consider the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 (1) C-weighted single-event noise, including  
20 noise generated by sonic booms, of 100 dB or great-  
21 er.

22 (2) A-weighted maximum sound level of 90 dB  
23 or greater.

24 (3) C-weighted day night average sound level of  
25 115 dB Peak or greater.

1 (4) PK 15.

2 (5) A direct association between noise and its  
3 measured effect on the geographic regions where  
4 sonic booms from space activity can be heard.

5 (6) A literature review of the research to date.

6 (7) Structure responses to vibration from sound  
7 power levels and overpressure.

8 (8) Data from all Federal ranges with at least  
9 one or more vertical space launches per year in 2024  
10 and thereafter.

11 (9) Sonic boom monitoring stations for a wide  
12 area in the region surrounding the space launch  
13 range.

14 (10) Any other metrics or indicators the Under  
15 Secretary determines appropriate.

16 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) The term “covered facility” means a hos-  
18 pital, daycare facility, school, facility serving senior  
19 citizens, or a single- or multi-unit private residence,  
20 that is—

21 (A) built before January 1, 2026; and

22 (B) not owned by the Federal Government.

23 (2) The term “eligible community” means a  
24 unit of local government serving a geographic region  
25 that the Secretary of the Air Force determines to be

1 negatively affected by noise from space launch activi-  
2 ties of the Department of Defense.

3 (3) The term “PK 15” means the calculated  
4 peak noise level, without frequency weighting, ex-  
5 pected to be exceeded by 15 percent of all space  
6 launch activities of the Department of Defense.

7 (4) The term “space launch noise mitigation  
8 grant program” means a potential grant program  
9 administered by the Secretary of Defense under  
10 which eligible communities install technologies to  
11 mitigate noise from the space launch activities of the  
12 Department of Defense.

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