

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5447

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

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. STRONG (for himself, Mr. FONG, and Mr. WHITESIDES) 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, an
7 airport authority, or a tax-support organization.”.

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

11 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make a
13 project grant under this chapter only if the grant
14 will not be for more than 90 percent of the total cost
15 of the project.

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

20 (c) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—Section 51103 of title
21 51, United States Code, is amended, in subsection (b)—

22 (1) in paragraph (1)—

23 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the
24 United States Government’s space transpor-
25 tation needs” and inserting “the civil, national

1 security, and commercial space transportation
2 needs of the United States”;

3 (B) in subparagraph (E), by striking “con-
4 tributions” and inserting “support”; and

5 (C) by amending subparagraph (F) to read
6 as follows:

7 “(F) the impact of the project on launch
8 and re-entry operations and other activities at
9 Government launch ranges, as needed.”;

10 (2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the
11 following:

12 “(2) The Secretary of Transportation shall de-
13 velop specific criteria for evaluating and selecting
14 proposed projects based on the considerations under
15 paragraph (1).”; and

16 (3) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(3) The Secretary of Transportation shall con-
18 sult with the Secretary of Defense, the Adminis-
19 trator of the National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
20 ministration, the Secretary of Commerce, and the
21 heads of other appropriate agencies of the Govern-
22 ment with respect to subparagraphs (A) and (F) of
23 paragraph (1), as appropriate.”.

24 (d) REPORT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
2 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3 of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary
4 of Defense, the Administrator of the National Aero-
5 nautics and Space Administration, the Secretary of
6 Commerce, and the heads of other appropriate agen-
7 cies of the Government, shall submit to Congress a
8 report that—

9 (A) evaluates the demand for space trans-
10 portation services, including the civil, national
11 security, and commercial space transportation
12 needs of the United States and international
13 commercial markets;

14 (B) provides legislative, regulatory, and
15 policy recommendations to ensure robust and
16 resilient space transportation capabilities in
17 support of the national space policy;

18 (C) examines a range of long-term funding
19 options and related considerations for space
20 transportation infrastructure projects; and

21 (D) provides an assessment of inter-
22 national space transportation capabilities and
23 investments, including recommendations for
24 maintaining United States competitiveness and

1 developing an international space transportation
2 network.

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

6 (A) update the report submitted under
7 paragraph (1); and

8 (B) submit such updated report to Con-
9 gress.

10 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
11 51105 of title 51, United States Code, is amended by
12 striking “Not more than” and all that follows through the
13 period at the end and inserting “There is authorized to
14 be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for
15 each fiscal year not more than \$10,000,000 to make
16 grants under this chapter.”.

17 (f) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

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

21 **“CHAPTER 511—SPACE TRANSPORTATION**
22 **INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION**
23 **GRANTS”.**

24 (2) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The table of chap-
25 ters at the beginning of title 51, United States Code,

- 1 is amended by striking the item relating to chapter
- 2 511 and inserting the following:

“511. Space transportation infrastructure modernization grants51101.”.

