

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 434

To establish the Commercial Space Activity Advisory Committee, and for
other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. WICKER) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To establish the Commercial Space Activity Advisory
Committee, 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 “Space Commerce Advi-
5 sory Committee Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Of-
10 fice of Space Commerce.

1 (2) SPACE OBJECT.—The term “space ob-
2 ject”—

3 (A) means—

4 (i) a human-made object located in
5 outer space, including on the Moon or
6 other celestial bodies, with or without
7 human occupants, that was launched from
8 Earth, such as a satellite or a spacecraft,
9 including component parts of the object;
10 and

11 (ii) all items carried on such object
12 that are intended for use in outer space
13 outside of, and independent of, the oper-
14 ation of such object;

15 (B) includes any human-made object that
16 is—

17 (i) manufactured or assembled in
18 outer space; and

19 (ii) intended for operations in outer
20 space other than, and independent of, the
21 operations of such object in which the
22 manufacturing or assembly occurred; and

23 (C) does not include—

1 (i) an article aboard a space object
2 that is only intended for use inside the
3 space object;

4 (ii) an article manufactured or proc-
5 essed in outer space that is a material; or

6 (iii) an article intended for use outside
7 a space object as part of the authorized op-
8 erations of the space object.

9 (3) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
10 the several States of the United States, the District
11 of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the
12 United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American
13 Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
14 Islands, and any other commonwealth, territory, or
15 possession of the United States.

16 (4) UNITED STATES ENTITY.—The term
17 “United States entity” means—

18 (A) an individual who is a national of the
19 United States (as defined in section 101(a) of
20 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
21 1101(a))); and

22 (B) a nongovernmental entity organized or
23 existing under, and subject to, the laws of the
24 United States or a State.

1 **SEC. 3. COMMERCIAL SPACE ACTIVITY ADVISORY COM-**
2 **MITTEE.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
5 establish a Commercial Space Activity Advisory Com-
6 mittee (in this section referred to as the “Committee”).

7 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall be
9 composed of 15 members appointed by the Sec-
10 retary.

11 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall be
13 composed of representatives from a variety of
14 space policy, engineering, technical, science,
15 legal, and finance fields who have significant
16 experience in the commercial space industry.

17 (B) LIMITATION.—

18 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
19 in clause (i), the Secretary may not ap-
20 point as a member of the Committee any
21 employee or official of the Federal Govern-
22 ment.

23 (ii) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may
24 appoint as a member of the Committee a
25 special government employee (as defined in
26 section 202(a) of title 18, United States

1 Code) who serves on 1 or more other Fed-
2 eral advisory committees.

3 (3) TERM.—Each individual appointed as a
4 member of the Committee—

5 (A) shall be appointed for a term of 4
6 years; and

7 (B) during the 2-year period beginning on
8 the date on which such term ends, may not
9 serve as a member of the Committee.

10 (c) DUTIES.—The duties of the Committee shall be—

11 (1) to advise on the status and recent develop-
12 ments of nongovernmental space activities;

13 (2) to provide to the Secretary and Congress
14 recommendations on the manner in which the
15 United States may facilitate and promote a robust
16 and innovative commercial sector that is investing
17 in, developing, and operating space objects;

18 (3) to identify any challenge faced by the
19 United States commercial sector relating to—

20 (A) international obligations of the United
21 States relevant to commercial space sector ac-
22 tivities in outer space;

23 (B) export controls that affect the com-
24 mercial space sector;

1 (C) harmful interference with commercial
 2 space sector activities in outer space; and

3 (D) access to adequate, predictable, and
 4 reliable radio frequency spectrum;

5 (4) to review existing best practices for United
 6 States entities to avoid—

7 (A) the harmful contamination of the
 8 Moon and other celestial bodies; and

9 (B) adverse changes in the environment of
 10 the Earth resulting from the introduction of ex-
 11 traterrestrial matter; and

12 (5) to provide information, advice, and rec-
 13 ommendations on matters relating to—

14 (A) United States commercial space sector
 15 activities in outer space; and

16 (B) other commercial space sector activi-
 17 ties, as the Committee considers necessary.

18 (d) TERMINATION.—The Committee shall terminate
 19 on the date that is 10 years after the date on which the
 20 Committee is established.

