

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1508
OFFERED BY MS. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Space Resource Explo-
3 ration and Utilization Act of 2015”.

4 SEC. 2. TITLE 51 AMENDMENT.

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle V of title 51, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing new chapter:

**8 “CHAPTER 513—SPACE RESOURCE
9 EXPLORATION AND UTILIZATION**

“Sec.

“51301. Definitions.

“51302. Interagency study of governmental roles and responsibilities related to
the commercialization of space resource exploration and utiliza-
tion.

“51303. Independent review.

10 “§ 51301. Definition

11 “In this chapter, the term ‘space resource’ means a
12 natural resource of any kind found in situ in outer space.

1 **“§ 51302. Interagency study of governmental roles**
2 **and responsibilities related to the com-**
3 **mercialization of space resource explo-**
4 **ration and utilization**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall convene an
6 interagency study under the leadership of the Office of
7 Science and Technology Policy and with participation by
8 all appropriate Federal agencies. The interagency review
9 shall—

10 “(1) identify and assess potential governmental
11 barriers to the development of economically viable,
12 safe, and stable industries for the exploration and
13 utilization of space resources in manners consistent
14 with the existing international obligations of the
15 United States;

16 “(2) identify appropriate roles and responsibil-
17 ities and a proposed organizational structure for the
18 Federal Government’s oversight and licensing of
19 commercial space resource exploration and utiliza-
20 tion;

21 “(3) identify any authorities necessary to meet
22 the international obligations of the United States
23 with respect to the exploration and utilization of
24 space resources, including an examination of issues
25 related to property rights issues, harmful inter-
26 ference, and national appropriation; and

1 “(4) identify and assess as appropriate other
2 issues associated with the commercial exploration
3 and utilization of space resources.

4 “(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 270 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this section, the Presi-
6 dent shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and
7 Technology of the House of Representatives and the Com-
8 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
9 Senate a report containing the results of the study con-
10 ducted under subsection (a).

11 “**§ 51303. Independent review**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Within 90 days of the submis-
13 sion of the report required in section 51302(b), the Direc-
14 tor of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall
15 enter into an arrangement with the National Academies
16 for an independent review of that report.

17 “(b) NATIONAL ACADEMIES REPORT.—Not later
18 than one year after the Director of the Office of Science
19 and Technology Policy enters into the arrangement under
20 subsection (a), the National Academies shall provide a re-
21 port of the results of its review to the Committee on
22 Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
24 and Transportation of the Senate.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters
2 for title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding
3 at the end of the items for subtitle V the following:

“513. Space resource exploration and utilization51301”.

