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.

This Act may be cited as the “Space Resource Exploration and Utilization Act of 2015”.

2 SEC. 2. TITLE 51 AMENDMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle V of title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

“CHAPTER 513—SPACE RESOURCE EXPLORATION AND UTILIZATION

Sec. 51301. Definitions.

Sec. 51302. Interagency study of governmental roles and responsibilities related to the commercialization of space resource exploration and utilization.

Sec. 51303. Independent review.

§ 51301. Definition

In this chapter, the term ‘space resource’ means a natural resource of any kind found in situ in outer space.
§ 51302. Interagency study of governmental roles and responsibilities related to the commercialization of space resource exploration and utilization

“(a) In general.—The President shall convene an interagency study under the leadership of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and with participation by all appropriate Federal agencies. The interagency review shall—

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

“(2) identify appropriate roles and responsibilities and a proposed organizational structure for the Federal Government’s oversight and licensing of commercial space resource exploration and utilization;

“(3) identify any authorities necessary to meet the international obligations of the United States with respect to the exploration and utilization of space resources, including an examination of issues related to property rights issues, harmful interference, and national appropriation; and
“(4) identify and assess as appropriate other
issues associated with the commercial exploration
and utilization of space resources.

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

“§ 51303. Independent review

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

“(b) NATIONAL ACADEMIES REPORT.—Not later
than one year after the Director of the Office of Science
and Technology Policy enters into the arrangement under
subsection (a), the National Academies shall provide a re-
port of the results of its review to the Committee on
Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
resentatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation of the Senate.”.
(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end of the items for subtitle V the following:

“513. **Space resource exploration and utilization** ..................51301”.