AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5503

OFFERED BY MR. ROHRABACHER OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 6. REAFFIRMATIONS ON ORBITAL DEBRIS.

(a) REAFFIRMATION OF FINDINGS.—Congress reaffirms the findings under section 839(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–10) that—

(1) orbital debris poses serious risks to the operational space capabilities of the United States;

(2) an international commitment and integrated strategic plan are needed to mitigate the growth of orbital debris wherever possible; and

(3) the delay in the Office of Science and Technology Policy’s submission of a report on the status of international coordination and development of orbital debris mitigation strategies is inconsistent with such risks.

(b) REAFFIRMATION OF SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Congress reaffirms the sense of Congress under section 840(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–10) that—
(1) orbital debris in low-Earth orbit poses significant risks to spacecraft;

(2) such orbital debris may increase due to collisions between existing debris objects; and

(3) understanding options to address and remove orbital debris is important for ensuring safe and effective spacecraft operations in low-Earth orbit.