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

[Amendment drafted to version of SSA_001 posted on Science, Space, and Technology committee website with the timestamp of June 22, 2018 at 10:27AM]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
2 This Act may be cited as the “Capabilities Assessment for Space Situational Awareness and Space Safety Support Act of 2018”.
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4 SEC. 2. CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT.
5 (a) ASSESSMENT.—Subject to subsection (b), the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (in this section referred to as the “Administrator”) shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to carry out an assessment of the capabilities and skills of civil Federal Government entities related to the provision of space situational awareness data, information, and services. The assessment shall—
(1) identify and assess such capabilities and skills for managing and providing space situational awareness data, information, and services to civil Federal Government entities and any other relevant entities, including commercial and foreign operators;

(2) identify the capabilities, skills, and facilities needed for a civil Federal Government entity to provide nonregulatory space safety operational support;

(3) identify issues, including accountability, enforcement, insurance, and international governance, and make recommendations related to a civil Federal Government entity providing space safety support;

(4) identify and prioritize approaches for transitioning the provision of civil space situational awareness data, information, and services currently with the Department of Defense to a civil Federal Government entity;

(5) recommend a lead civil Federal Government entity to carry out the provision of civil space situational awareness data, information, and services;

(6) identify the capabilities, skills, and facilities needed for a civil Federal Government entity to provide regulatory space traffic coordination; and

(7) identify issues, including accountability, enforcement, insurance, and international governance,
and make recommendations for a framework or strategy for the eventual provision by a civil Federal Government entity of regulatory space traffic coordination.

(b) ARRANGEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall request the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct the study required by subsection (a) under an arrangement under which the actual expenses incurred by such Academies in conducting such study will be paid by the Administrator. If the Academies are willing to do so, the Administrator shall enter into such an arrangement with such Academies for the conduct of such study.

(2) REFUSAL.—If the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine are unwilling to conduct such study under such an arrangement, then the Administrator shall enter into a similar arrangement with other appropriate nonprofit private groups or associations under which such groups or associations will conduct such study and prepare and submit the reports thereon as provided in subsection (e).

(3) CONSULTATION.—The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine or other
group or association conducting the study required by subsection (a) shall conduct such study in consultation with the Administrator.

(c) TRANSMITTAL.—Not later than 13 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the assessment conducted under subsection (a) shall be transmitted to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term “civil Federal Government entity” refers to any Federal agency (including any service, department, or other subdivision thereof) other than the Department of Defense (or any service, department, or other subdivision thereof).