



COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, & TECHNOLOGY
Lamar Smith, Chairman

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Media Contacts: Heather Vaughan, Bridget Dunn
(202) 225-6371

Statement from Rep. Mo Brooks (R-Ala.)

Markup of S.141

Chairman Brooks: Mr. Chairman, thank you for bringing this legislation and the Perlmutter-Brooks amendment in the nature of a substitute up for Committee consideration today. Space weather is an important issue because the consequences of a severe space weather event can be far-reaching and disastrous. The Perlmutter-Brooks amendment helps to establish a formal space weather observation and forecasting architecture that, hopefully, will help mitigate the harmful consequences of space weather to life and property on Earth and in space.

Space weather is a collection of physical processes, beginning at the Sun with solar winds and ultimately affecting human activities on Earth and in space. Solar winds and their interaction with Earth's atmosphere are not as understood as they should be. Fortunately, numerous people and organizations are changing this. Scientists and engineers at Marshall Space Flight Center, in my district, have been at the forefront of this vital research for many years. Under the Perlmutter-Brooks amendment, their research will not only continue, but improve so as to help advance the nation's space weather knowledge to where it needs to be.

I thank my colleague, Mr. Perlmutter, for his leadership on space weather and his partnership on this amendment. I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

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