

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5345

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 28, 2018

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

To designate the Marshall Space Flight Center of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to provide leadership for the U.S. rocket propulsion industrial base, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Leadership
3 in Space Technology and Advanced Rocketry Act” or the
4 “ALSTAR Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) Non-military rocket propulsion is an ena-
8 bling technology for our Nation’s future prosperous
9 way of life.

10 (2) Non-military rocket propulsion technologies
11 are critical to national security, intelligence gath-
12 ering, communications, weather forecasting, naviga-
13 tion, communications, entertainment, land use,
14 Earth observation, and scientific exploration.

15 (3) The non-military rocket propulsion industry
16 is a source of high-quality jobs.

17 (4) Multiple Federal agencies and companies
18 are involved in non-military rocket propulsion re-
19 search, development, and manufacturing.

20 (5) Integration, coordination, and cooperation
21 would strengthen the United States non-military
22 rocket propulsion industrial base.

23 (6) Erosion of the non-military rocket propul-
24 sion industrial base would seriously impact national
25 security, space exploration potential, and economic
26 growth.

1 (7) The Marshall Space Flight Center has dec-
2 ades of experience working with other Government
3 agencies and industry partners to study and coordi-
4 nate these capabilities.

5 (8) The Marshall Space Flight Center has made
6 historic and unique contributions—

7 (A) by bringing stakeholders together to
8 work on non-military rocket propulsion indus-
9 trial base sustainment;

10 (B) of technical expertise to key studies
11 and review boards; and

12 (C) by consistently participating in inter-
13 agency working groups to address non-military
14 rocket propulsion issues.

15 **SEC. 3. NON-MILITARY ROCKET PROPULSION LEADERSHIP.**

16 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
17 gress that the Marshall Space Flight Center is the Na-
18 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration’s lead center
19 for non-military rocket propulsion and is essential to sus-
20 taining and promoting United States leadership in non-
21 military rocket propulsion and developing the next genera-
22 tion of non-military rocket propulsion capabilities.

23 (b) LEADERSHIP IN NON-MILITARY ROCKET PRO-
24 PULSION.—The Marshall Space Flight Center shall pro-

1 vide national leadership in NASA in non-military rocket
2 propulsion by—

3 (1) contributing to interagency coordination for
4 the preservation of critical national non-military
5 rocket propulsion capabilities;

6 (2) collaborating with industry, academia, and
7 professional organizations to most effectively use na-
8 tional capabilities and resources;

9 (3) monitoring public- and private-sector non-
10 military rocket propulsion activities to develop and
11 promote a strong, healthy non-military rocket pro-
12 pulsion industrial base;

13 (4) facilitating technical solutions for existing
14 and emerging non-military rocket propulsion chal-
15 lenges;

16 (5) supporting the development and refinement
17 of non-military rocket propulsion for small satellites;

18 (6) evaluating and recommending, as appro-
19 priate, new non-military rocket propulsion tech-
20 nologies for further development; and

21 (7) providing information required by national
22 decision makers so that policies and other instru-
23 ments of the Government support the development
24 and strengthening of the Nation's non-military rock-

1 et propulsion capabilities throughout the 21st cen-
2 tury.

Passed the House of Representatives June 27, 2018.

Attest: KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.