

Nov 17th, 3:45 PM

The Reporting Requirements of the U.S. Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act: Status, Analysis, and Legal Implications

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Dodge, Michael S., "The Reporting Requirements of the U.S. Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act: Status, Analysis, and Legal Implications" (2016). *Space Traffic Management Conference*. 16.
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Pub. L. 114-90: Reporting & STM/SAA

UND DEPT. OF SPACE STUDIES

PROF. MICHAEL DODGE

CSLCA of 2015

Concerns IV topical areas of space activities

- SPACE Act of 2015
- Commercial Remote Sensing
- Office of Space Commerce
- Space Resource Exploration & Utilization

Calls for numerous reports or consultations

- Indicates: seriousness/uncertainty in Congress?

Pub. L. 114-90, Sec. 108

Space Authority

- Recognizing the need for a SA, Congress required a litany of agencies to collaborate and consult
- Assess current/near term commercial non gov't activities in space
- Identify appropriate authorization/supervision authorities
- Recognizes the role of the FAA/AST in future efforts

Mission Authorization Proposal

Report proposes the creation of new law

- Modeled after the FAA's Payload Review Process
- Intended to be a “predictable mechanism” for authorization of commercial space activities
- Applies irrespective of launch location
- Amends 51 USC Chapter 509
- Multiple consultations between agencies
- Intended as *procedural*, not substantive

Pub. L. 114-90, Sec. 110

Space Surveillance and Situational Awareness Data

- Feasibility of releasing safety-related space situational awareness data and information to any entity
- FAA/AST could handle much of this work
- New statutory authority needed to authorize civilian agencies to release such data
- DoD would continue its capabilities & collection of data
- Immunity needed for civilian agencies?
- Consistency with National Space Policy (2010)?

Pub. L. 114-90, Sec. 402

Space Resource Exploration and Utilization

- Report from OSTP
- Claims that their other report on Sec. 108 satisfies this reporting requirement
- Emphasis on Outer Space Treaty requirements
- Mission Authorization Proposal cited
- Again, FAA/AST would “coordinate” an interagency process to ensure U.S. obligations are met

Thank You!!!
