

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. _____
OFFERED BY MR. MULLIN OF CALIFORNIA**

Add at the end of title III the following:

1 **SEC. 3 ____ . RISK OF LOSING ACCESS TO LOW-EARTH ORBIT.**

2 Not later than 270 days after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the
4 appropriate committees of Congress a report that evalu-
5 ates the risk posed by a potential gap in access to low-
6 Earth orbit on science and technology research and devel-
7 opment conducted by NASA and private entities. The re-
8 port shall describe the following:

9 (1) The NASA science and exploration pro-
10 grams that may be adversely affected by the lack of
11 a United States presence in low-Earth orbit.

12 (2) The effects that a gap in low-Earth orbit
13 would have on the United States' competitiveness in
14 science and technology and in the development of
15 the United States-based commercial space industry.

16 (3) Potential options and associated costs for
17 preventing such a gap, including the following:

18 (A) Implementing the strategy described in
19 section 306.

1 (B) Supporting the operation of the Inter-
2 national Space Station beyond 2030.

3 (C) Increasing investment in and accel-
4 erating development of commercial space sta-
5 tions.

6 (D) Working with international partners to
7 establish alternative means for conducting re-
8 search in low-Earth orbit.

