S 976

Space Resource Exploration and Utilization Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications
Introduced: Apr 16, 2015
Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Apr 16, 2015)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/976

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]
Party: Democratic • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Apr 16, 2015
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Apr 30, 2015
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 7, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 16, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1508	Identical bill	**Jun 15, 2015:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 111.

Summary (as of Apr 16, 2015)

Space Resource Exploration and Utilization Act of 2015

Directs the President, acting through appropriate federal agencies, to:

- facilitate the commercial exploration and utilization of space resources to meet national needs;
- discourage government barriers to the development of economically viable, safe, and stable industries for the exploration and utilization of space resources in manners consistent with the existing international obligations of the United States; and
- promote the right of U.S. commercial entities to explore outer space and utilize space resources, in accordance with such obligations, free from harmful interference, and to transfer or sell such resources.

Defines "space resource" as a natural resource of any kind found in place in outer space.

Directs the President to report recommendations for: (1) allocating responsibilities relating to the exploration and utilization of space resources among federal agencies, and (2) any authorities necessary to meet U.S international obligations with respect to the exploration and utilization of space resources.

Declares that any asteroid resources obtained in outer space are the property of the entity that obtained them.

Requires a U.S. commercial space resource utilization entity to avoid causing harmful interference in outer space. Authorizes such an entity to bring a civil action for appropriate relief for any action by another entity subject to U.S. jurisdiction causing harmful interference to its operations with respect to an asteroid resource utilization activity in outer space.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 16, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
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