

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-**

**54**

**OFFERED BY MR. CARTER OF GEORGIA**

Page 1691, after line 20, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 40002. LAUNCH SITES AND REENTRY SITES.**

2 Section 50905(b) of Title 51, United States Code, is  
3 amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
5 (6) as paragraphs (4) through (7), respectively; and

6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of  
9 law, in evaluating a license application for the oper-  
10 ation of a launch site or reentry site pursuant to the  
11 National Environmental Policy Act ( 42 U.S.C. §  
12 4321 et seq.), the Secretary shall:

13 “(A) evaluate only those launch or reentry  
14 site locations proposed by the applicant and a  
15 no-action alternative;

16 “(B) evaluate proposed operations based  
17 on a representative launch vehicle and rep-  
18 resentative launch or reentry trajectory or tra-

1           jectories specified by the applicant in its license  
2           application;

3           “(C) include launch vehicles or launch or  
4           reentry trajectories that present environmental  
5           impacts and safety risks that are equivalent to  
6           or less than those of the representative launch  
7           vehicles and launch or reentry trajectories used  
8           for review, to be within the scope of review of  
9           the representative launch vehicle and launch or  
10          reentry trajectory’s impacts, such that further  
11          environmental review under subparagraph (D)  
12          is not required before the Secretary may license  
13          the launch site or launch operations involving  
14          such launch vehicles or launch or reentry trajec-  
15          tories;

16          “(D) for the purposes of environmental re-  
17          view under the National Environmental Policy  
18          Act, use one of the following:

19                 “(i) a Categorical Exclusion for appli-  
20                 cations proposing new launch or reentry  
21                 sites at existing airports;

22                 “(ii) an Environmental Assessment  
23                 which may be prepared and submitted to  
24                 the Secretary by the applicant, for sites  
25                 that are not at existing airports; and

1                   “(iii) an Environmental Impact State-  
2                   ment for sites where effects may be signifi-  
3                   cant and cannot be rendered less than sig-  
4                   nificant with mitigation;

5                   “(E) complete the environmental review  
6                   and issue a final decision on the license applica-  
7                   tion within 180 days after submission of a com-  
8                   plete application for license applications requir-  
9                   ing a Categorical Exclusion or Environmental  
10                  Assessment under subparagraph (D);

11                  “(F) complete the environmental review  
12                  and issue a decision on the license application  
13                  within 2 years after submission of a complete  
14                  application by an applicant for applications re-  
15                  quiring an Environmental Impact Statement  
16                  under subparagraph (D);

17                  “(G) determine whether an application is  
18                  complete within 30 days of the application’s  
19                  submission;

20                  “(H) deem an application complete once all  
21                  information required by regulations set forth in  
22                  accordance with the Secretary’s authorities  
23                  under this chapter is submitted; and

24                  “(I) not require any environmental review  
25                  pursuant to the National Environmental Policy

1 Act to be completed before an application may  
2 be deemed complete.”; and

3 (3) in paragraph (5)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
5 “paragraph (6)(A)” and inserting “paragraph  
6 (7)(A)”; and

7 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking  
8 “paragraph (6)” and inserting “paragraph (7)”

