

Short Title of 1958 Act note set out under section 10101 of Title 51 and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER IV—CONTINUATION, SUPPORT, AND EVOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

§ 18351. Continuation of the International Space Station

(a) Policy of the United States

It shall be the policy of the United States, in consultation with its international partners in the ISS program, to support full and complete utilization of the ISS through at least 2024.

(b) NASA action

In furtherance of the policy set forth in subsection (a), NASA shall—

(1) pursue international, commercial, and intragovernmental means to maximize ISS logistics supply, maintenance, and operational capabilities, reduce risks to ISS systems sustainability, and offset and minimize United States operations costs relating to the ISS;

(2) utilize, to the extent practicable, the ISS for the development of capabilities and technologies needed for the future of human space exploration beyond low-Earth orbit; and

(3) utilize, if practical and cost effective, the ISS for Science Mission Directorate missions in low-Earth orbit.

(Pub. L. 111-267, title V, §501, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2822; Pub. L. 114-90, title I, §114(b)(1), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 715; Pub. L. 115-10, title III, §301(c), Mar. 21, 2017, 131 Stat. 23.)

AMENDMENTS

2017—Pub. L. 115-10 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows:

“(a) POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.—It shall be the policy of the United States, in consultation with its international partners in the ISS program, to support full and complete utilization of the ISS through at least 2024.

“(b) NASA ACTIONS.—In furtherance of the policy set forth in subsection (a), NASA shall pursue international, commercial, and intragovernmental means to maximize ISS logistics supply, maintenance, and operational capabilities, reduce risks to ISS systems sustainability, and offset and minimize United States operations costs relating to the ISS.”

2015—Pub. L. 114-90, §114(b)(1)(A), struck out “through 2020” after “Station” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-90, §114(b)(1)(B), substituted “through at least 2024” for “through at least 2020”.

§ 18352. Maximum utilization of the International Space Station

(a) In general

With assembly of the ISS complete, NASA shall take steps to maximize the productivity and use of the ISS with respect to scientific and technological research and development, advancement of space exploration, and international collaboration.

(b) NASA actions

In carrying out subsection (a), NASA shall, at a minimum, undertake the following:

(1) Innovative use of U.S. segment

The United States segment of the ISS, which has been designated as a National Laboratory,

shall be developed, managed and utilized in a manner that enables the effective and innovative use of such facility, as provided in section 18354 of this title.

(2) International cooperation

The ISS shall continue to be utilized as a key component of international efforts to build missions and capabilities that further the development of a human presence beyond near-Earth space and advance United States security and economic goals. The Administrator shall actively seek ways to encourage and enable the use of ISS capabilities to support these efforts.

(3) Domestic collaboration

The operations, management, and utilization of the ISS shall be conducted in a manner that provides opportunities for collaboration with other research programs and objectives of the United States Government in cooperation with commercial suppliers, users, and developers.

(Pub. L. 111-267, title V, §502, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2823.)

§ 18353. Maintenance of the United States segment and assurance of continued operations of the International Space Station.

(a) In general

The Administrator shall take all actions necessary to ensure the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and maximum utilization of the United States segment of the ISS through at least September 30, 2024.

(b) Vehicle and component review

(1) In general

The Administrator shall, as soon as is practicable after October 11, 2010, carry out a comprehensive assessment of the essential modules, operational systems and components, structural elements, and permanent scientific equipment on board or planned for delivery and installation aboard the ISS, including both United States and international partner elements, for purposes of identifying the spare or replacement modules, systems and components, elements, and equipment that are required to ensure complete, effective, and safe functioning and full scientific utilization of the ISS through September 30, 2020.¹

(2) Data

In carrying out the assessment, the Administrator shall assemble any existing data, and provide for the development of any data or analysis not currently available, that is necessary for purposes of the assessment.

(c) Reports

(1) Report on assessment

(A) Report required

Not later than 90 days after October 11, 2010, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the assessment required by subsection (b).

¹ See References in Text note below.