



Committee Approves Realistic, Sustainable Path for NASA

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E-NEWS

On July 22, the House Committee on Science and Technology approved H.R. 5781, *National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010*, by a voice vote with broad bipartisan support.



[Ranking Member Ralph Hall \(R-TX\) and Chairman Bart Gordon \(D-TN\) Discuss NASA Bill Amendments](#)

Among other things, the bill restructures NASA's exploration program. It directs NASA to develop a crew transportation system that will both minimize the post-Shuttle human space flight "gap" and directly support the expeditious develop-

ment of a heavy lift launch vehicle and capsule to enable challenging crewed missions beyond low Earth orbit.

"We have created a balanced, sustainable exploration program that will allow NASA to live within its means. The new program builds on the investment and advancements already made in the Constellation program and will provide an exciting and productive program that will be paced by available funding," said **Full Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN)**.

The Committee adopted 23 amendments.

[Read more on the Committee's work on NASA>>](#)

Newsletter Spotlight

Welcome to the July edition of the [House Committee on Science and Technology's](#) E-Newsletter.

The Committee appreciates your interest in our work. Please feel free to share Science & Tech E-News with friends and colleagues. They can also [sign up](#) to receive E-News in their own mailboxes quickly and easily.

Sincerely,

Bart Gordon,
Chairman,
U.S. House Committee on
Science and Technology

Oil Spill Prevention and Response Bill Passes House

On July 21, the **House of Representatives** passed two bills that will improve the ability of the United States to prevent and respond to oil spills. These two pieces of legislation will enhance research for oil spill prevention and cleanup and provide the necessary research to ensure safer, cleaner oil and gas drilling technologies. Together, these bills represent a comprehensive research agenda to enhance U.S. preparedness for future oil spills.

H.R. 2693, *The Oil Pollution Research and Development Reauthorization Act*, authored by **Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)**, ensures the ongoing development of new technologies and methods to prevent, recover, and respond to oil spills.

H.R. 5716, *The Safer Oil and Natural Gas Drilling Technology Research and Development Act*, authored by **Full Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN)**, will make oil and gas drilling safer by supporting research and development of technologies and practices for worker and environmental safety, as well as accident prevention and mitigation.

[Read more on the Committee's work on oil spills >>](#)

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Subcommittee Advances Bipartisan Nuclear Energy Research Bill

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On [July 28](#), the **Energy and Environment Subcommittee** marked up [H.R. 5866](#), the *Nuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 2010*. The bill was authored by **Full Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN)**, and co-sponsored by Full Committee Ranking Member Ralph Hall (R-TX), **Subcommittee Chairman Brian Baird (D-WA)**, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Bob Inglis (R-SC).



[Subcommittee Chairman Brian Baird Speaks on amendment to H.R. 5866.](#)

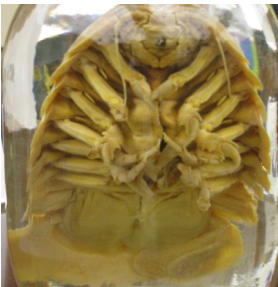
“Whether we are concerned about climate change, energy independence, or both, nuclear power will need to remain a component of our national energy portfolio. This bill makes investments in research and development to help increase efficiency of current and future technology, decrease the cost of plant development, and provide technology for long-term waste management,” said **Full Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-TN)**.

The Subcommittee adopted [7 amendments](#).

[Read more on the Committee’s work on Nuclear Energy>>](#)

Subcommittee Hears from Smithsonian

On [July 21](#), the **House Committee on Science and Technology’s Subcommittee on Research and Science Education** heard from witnesses about the Smithsonian Institution’s research and education activities, scientific collections, and ability to serve as a resource to other federal agencies.



[The Smithsonian Institution Panel Presented a BP Oil Spill Specimen from its Scientific Collections](#)

While renowned for the world’s largest museum complex, the Smithsonian Institution is also a prominent leader in scientific research. The Smithsonian Institution provides unique potential for the federal government to leverage the resources of America’s top researchers.

Noting its federal appropriations of over \$700 million last year, **Subcommittee Chairman Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)** said, “It is appropriate and necessary for Congress to take a more active role in the oversight of the Institution’s activities and long-term plans.”

[Watch the webcast of this hearing >>](#)

<http://science.house.gov>



If you are not already, please follow the S&T Committee on Twitter ([@SciTechCmte](#)) for up-to-date information on the Committee’s work. <http://twitter.com/SciTechCmte>

July events:

[July 1](#) — *Smart Grid Architecture and Standards: Assessing Coordination and Progress*

[July 14](#) — *Full Committee Markup of H.R. 2693 & H.R. 5716*

[July 15](#) — *Planning for the Future of Cyber Attack Attribution*

[July 20](#) — *Building a Science of Economics for the Real World*

[July 21](#) — *Behind the Scenes: Science and Education at the Smithsonian Institution*

[July 22](#) — *Full Committee Markup of H.R. 5781*

[July 28](#) — *Subcommittee on Energy and Environment Markup of H.R. 5866*

No August E-Newsletter

The House of Representatives is out of session during the month of August. Because of this District Work Period, the Committee will not produce a newsletter this month. Monthly newsletters will resume in September.

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