



## Committee Reviews NASA's Human Space Flight Program

On [September 15](#), the Committee discussed the options and issues for NASA's Human Space Flight Program. Committee Member's questioned Mr. Norman Augustine about the [Review of U.S. Human Space Flight Plans Committee](#) and the lack of resources needed to fulfill NASA's current projects.

"I have made no secret in recent years of my belief that the resources given to NASA haven't kept pace with the important tasks that we have asked NASA to undertake," said **Chairman Bart Gordon**. "That has caused significant stresses in recent years, and we can't continue down that path. We either have to give NASA the resources that it needs or stop pretending that it can do all we've put on its plate."



(From L to R): Mr. Norman Augustine, Vice Admiral Joe Dyer USN (Ret.), Chairman Bart Gordon, Dr. Ed Crawley, and Dr. Michael Griffin before the hearing.

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## Subcommittee Advances Cybersecurity Legislation

On [September 23](#), the Subcommittee on Research and Science Education passed the *Cybersecurity Research and Development Amendments of 2009* by a voice vote. This legislation would require agencies to develop, update, and implement a strategic plan for cybersecurity research and development. In addition, this legislation would require the federal agencies to establish a roadmap explaining the role and level of funding of each participating agency needs to fulfill their research objectives.



Subcommittee Chairman Lipinski summarizing his cybersecurity bill at the Subcommittee markup.

The Committee incorporated feedback from the Administration's 60-day Cyberspace policy review report and witness testimony from the three cybersecurity hearings held this year.

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

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### Newsletter Spotlight

Welcome to the September 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

### Additional September Events:

[September 10](#) — *Biological Research for Energy and Medical Applications at the Department of Energy Office of Science*

[September 10](#) — *The Risks of Financial Modeling: VaR and the Economic Meltdown*

[September 14](#) — *Strengthening Regional Innovation: A Perspective from Northeast Texas*

[September 30](#) — *Energy and Environment Subcommittee Markup: H.R. 3650, H.R. 3585, and H.R. 3598*

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## Subcommittee Investigates Ways to Improve the Measurement Standard for Life-Saving Biologic Drugs

On September 24, Technology and Innovation Subcommittee examined the need for reference standards and analytical tools to improve the development and regulatory approval process of biologic drugs, and to help ensure patients receive safe, effective medicines.

Biologics and biological drugs refer to a class of medicinal products that are developed through a biological process, instead of being chemically manufactured. Biologic drugs are used to treat complex diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and multiple sclerosis.

This is the first in a series of hearing the Committee will hold on measurement science issues surrounding personalized medicine and genetic diagnostic testing.

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## Subcommittee Discusses Methods for Preventing Harmful Algal Blooms

On September 17, the Energy and Environment Subcommittee examined ways to prevent and control harmful algal blooms. At the hearing, Subcommittee Members received testimony on Subcommittee Chairman Brian Baird's draft legislation, *The Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 2009*. Harmful algal blooms are rapid overproduction of algal cells, which produce toxins that are hazardous to humans and animals.



A photo of Harmful Algal Blooms from Dr. Donald Anderson's testimony on July 10, 2008.

On September 30, the Subcommittee passed H.R. 3650, *The Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 2009*.

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

## Looking Ahead

In October, will investigate high-risk, high-reward research and markup H.R. 3650, 3585, H.R. 3598. Please check the Committee's website for more information and the exact dates and times of these events.

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## House Passes S&T Legislation

On September 9, the House approved H.R. 3165, the *Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2009*, by voice vote.

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On September 16, the House passed H.R. 3246, the *Advanced Vehicle Technology Act of 2009*, by a vote of 312 to 114.

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## Committee Passes S&T Legislation

On September 23, the Research and Science Education Subcommittee approved, the *Cybersecurity Research and Development Act of 2009* by voice vote.

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On September 30, the Energy and Environment Subcommittee approved H.R. 3650, the *Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2009*; H.R. 3585, the *Solar Technology Roadmap Act*; and H.R. 3598, the *Energy and Water Research Integration Act*. All three bills passed by voice vote.

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