

**H.R. 7900—FY23 NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION BILL**

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**NOTE: THE SUMMARY TABLES AND COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING ITEMS ARE
INFORMATIONAL ONLY AND WILL BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE COMMITTEE
REPORT**

TITLE XVI—SPACE ACTIVITIES, STRATEGIC PROGRAMS, AND INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

SPACE ACTIVITIES

Commercial Geostationary Satellite Loan Program

The committee notes the continued need for low-latency, high-quality overhead imagery to support global combatant commander requirements for persistent coverage across areas of responsibility. The committee further notes various Federal loan programs that could be used to support industry, particularly small businesses, in developing and placing on-orbit sensors in various orbits that could further improve overhead imagery capability and capacity. Therefore, the committee directs the Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), in consultation with the Department of the Treasury, to submit a report to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 31, 2022, on how available Federal loan programs could be used to support NGA in filling latency and quality gaps in current overhead imagery procured to support combatant commander requirements.

Domestic Sourcing of Space System and Ground Components

The committee notes the continuously expanding space industry, both for commercial, civil, and national security purposes. The committee further notes that procuring American-made services, equipment, and products whenever and wherever possible to ensure a strong national industrial base should remain a focus of the Department of Defense, particularly with regard to space systems. The committee understands that the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment has suggested reforms to Department contracting and acquisition, particularly with regard to establishing the long-term space infrastructure needed to ensure U.S. dominance in space. The committee is aware that for certain components, due to cost, capacity, and capability factors, allied manufactured components, services, and systems are often procured over U.S. options.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment's Director for Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration, to conduct an analysis of U.S. industry's ability to support the growing space industry requirements, including both capacity and capability, for current and planned Department of Defense National Security Space programs. The analysis should focus on two areas: satellite ground control services; and space-qualified solar cells, cell-interconnect-coverglass (CIC) assemblies, solar panels, and solar arrays. The committee further directs the Director to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than January 15, 2023, on the results of this analysis.

Use of Commercial Space Networks

The committee is aware of and supports U.S. Space Force efforts to leverage interconnected commercial space networks for future military communications. The committee believes that aggressive economic and military actions taken by our strategic competitors in space are accelerating the urgency of shifting the U.S. military space architecture to be more resilient and disaggregated. Therefore, the committee believes the Space Force should continue to leverage commercial space networks to the maximum extent possible by working with industry to develop interoperability standards; promoting greater military use of commercial ground and cloud architectures; accelerating use of “new space” (as well as traditional) commercial communications systems; adopting agile contracting mechanisms to match the speed of the “new space” industry; rapidly acquiring interoperable user equipment; and employing these systems in ongoing wargames and exercises. The committee directs the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration, in coordination with the Commander of Space Systems Command, to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than January 15, 2023, that includes an update on specific policy, plans, and steps the United States Space Force has taken and intends to take to shift its architecture in a manner that fully promotes and embraces the current and planned commercial space network.