

COMMITTEE ON
**SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY**
CHAIRMAN LAMAR SMITH



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**Statement of Chairman Lamar Smith (R-Texas)
Full Committee Business Meeting**

Chairman Smith: The amendment that I am offering to Committee Rule VI (b) combines the Research and Technology Subcommittees into one Subcommittee on Research and Technology.

This merger will decrease the number of Subcommittees from 6 to 5. Doing so will help the Science Committee operate more efficiently and save costs.

Since 2010, the Science Committee's budget has been cut by over 26%. This year alone, our budget was reduced by about 12%.

In the current budget environment, everyone is forced to tighten their belts and do more with less, and the Science Committee is no exception. By reducing the number of Subcommittees, the Committee will be able to streamline its operations.

This merger decreases the Science Committee's costs but does not decrease its jurisdiction. The merged Subcommittee will exercise the full combined jurisdiction that the two separate Subcommittees previously possessed.

The new Subcommittee will be chaired by Congressman Larry Buchson of Indiana, who was previously Chairman of the Research Subcommittee. Congressman Thomas Massie of Kentucky, who previously chaired the Technology Subcommittee, will serve as vice-chair of the combined Subcommittee.

After we adopt the resolution that amends the Committee rules to restructure the Subcommittees, we will vote to adopt appropriately amended Republican and Democratic Subcommittee membership rosters.

The Republican roster is largely unchanged. All Republicans who were previously on either the Research or Technology Subcommittee are now on the combined Research & Technology Subcommittee.

In addition, Congressman Jim Bridenstine of Oklahoma will fill a vacant slot on the Environment Subcommittee and will now serve as vice-chair of that Subcommittee.

The amended Republican roster also places the Science Committee's newest member, Republican Chris Collins of New York, on the Research & Technology Subcommittee.

Congressman Collins graduated from North Carolina State with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and received his MBA from the University of Alabama Birmingham.

He put both his technical and business education to work in a successful private sector career before entering public service first as the Erie County Executive and now as a Congressman. He keeps a sign in his office that reads “In God we trust, all others bring data.” No doubt this approach will greatly benefit the Committee.

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