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# Congress of the United States
## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Members and Staff
FROM: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Staff
DATE: February 8, 2016
RE: Full Committee Markup

The Committee on Science, Space, and Technology will meet on **Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.**, in Room 2318 of the Rayburn House Office Building to consider the following:

**H.R. 4489, the "FAA Leadership in Groundbreaking High-Tech Research and Development Act" (FLIGHT R&D Act)**

H.R. 4489 was introduced by Rep. Stephen Knight on February 8, 2016 and referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

H.R. 4489 authorizes the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Research and Development (R&D) activities through Fiscal Year (FY) 2019. The bill's funding levels for FAA's Research, Engineering, and Development account are consistent with the FAA's National Aviation Research Plan for 2015. These four-year levels do not exceed the CBO baseline for spending out of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund for this account. This Act aligns FAA management and organization to allow R&D to advance aviation safety, security, and economic competitiveness. It ensures that R&D is managed appropriately at the FAA by directing the appointment of an Associate Administrator for Research and Development at the FAA, and strengthening FAA's Research and Development Advisory Committee. The bill enhances Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) R&D by directing the FAA to coordinate UAS research to ensure efficient and effective use of taxpayer funding. The bill directs FAA to report to Congress on its efforts to coordinate R&D between the public and private sector, among test sites, by the Center of Excellence, and with other government agencies such as NASA. The FLIGHT R&D Act also strengthens FAA's ability to defend against cybersecurity threats by organizing and bolstering cybersecurity R&D at the FAA. Finally, the bill calls for the FAA to initiate or plan for emerging R&D fields such as single-piloted commercial cargo aircraft safety, air traffic surveillance over oceans and other remote locations, advanced fuels, and certification of new technologies into the national airspace system.

For questions about this markup, please contact Molly Fromm of the Science Committee at 225-6371.