

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 7273

OFFERED BY MR. WHITESIDES OF CALIFORNIA

Add at the end of subtitle B of title III the following:

1 **SEC. 315. ENGINEERING ANALYSIS OF VIABILITY.**

2 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
3 gress that—

4 (1) the ISS is one of the most complex engi-
5 neering achievements of all time;

6 (2) the ISS weighs nearly a million pounds, is
7 comprised of significant quantities of metal, and rep-
8 represents a United States taxpayer investment of 100
9 billion dollars to 150 billion dollars and more than
10 two decades of effort to design, develop, and assem-
11 ble in low-Earth orbit; and

12 (3) the size, scale, and value of the ISS as an
13 on-orbit resource warrants an evaluation of the via-
14 bility of safely moving to and storing the ISS in an
15 orbital location to preserve its potential for future
16 reuse in the coming decades.

17 (b) ENGINEERING ANALYSIS.—The Administrator
18 shall carry out an engineering analysis to evaluate the
19 technical, operational, and logistical viability of transfer-

1 ring the ISS to a safe orbital harbor and storing the ISS
2 in such harbor after the end of the operational low-Earth
3 orbit lifetime of the ISS to—

4 (1) preserve the ISS for potential future reuse;

5 and

6 (2) satisfy the objectives of NASA.

7 (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out the engineer-
8 ing analysis under subsection (b), the Administrator shall
9 consider the following:

10 (1) Any propulsion requirements and the extent
11 of available propulsive capabilities to transfer the
12 ISS to a safe orbital harbor and store the ISS in
13 such harbor.

14 (2) The estimated cost of such requirements
15 and any such space vehicles necessary for such
16 transfer and storage.

17 (3) The viability of such transfer and storage
18 with respect to preservation of the ISS for potential
19 future reuse.

20 (4) Any risks of the ISS losing its orbital stor-
21 age position, including any risks—

22 (A) to in-space assets of NASA; or

23 (B) for an uncontrolled reentry of the ISS
24 into the atmosphere of the Earth.

1 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date
2 of the completion of the engineering analysis under sub-
3 section (b), the Administrator shall submit to the appro-
4 priate committees of Congress a report that includes infor-
5 mation relating to such analysis.

