



1. [H.R. 1362: To name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic](#)
2. [H.R. 375 - To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse](#)
3. [H.R. 1174 - Fairness For Breastfeeding Mothers Act of 2017](#)
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# H.R. 1362: To name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic. (Del. Radewagen, R-AS)

CONTACT: [Matt Dickerson](#), 202-226-9718

## FLOOR SCHEDULE:

March 7, 2017 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

### TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1362](#) would name a VA Clinic in American Samoa in honor of the Hon. Eni Faleomavaega, the late delegate from American Samoa.

### COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not available at this time.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

### CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

## DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 1362 would name a Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Pago Pago, American Samoa, as the Faleomavaega Eni Fa'aua'a Hunkin VA Clinic.

Eni Faleomavaega served as the Delegate from American Samoa for 26 years and also served as the Territory's Lieutenant Governor. [Faleomavaega](#) passed away in February at the age of 73.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1362 was introduced on March 6, 2017, and referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. The Committee took no further action on the bill.

### ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

"Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution." No specific enumerating clause was cited.

# H.R. 375 - To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse (Rep. Blackburn, R-TN)

CONTACT: [Matt Dickerson](#), 202-226-7819

## FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on March 7, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

## TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 375](#) would name a federal building and courthouse located in Nashville, Tennessee, after former Senator Fred Thompson.

## COST:

According to the [Congressional Budget Office](#) (CBO), H.R. 375 would “have no significant effect on the federal budget and would not affect direct spending or revenues”.

## CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? No.
- Encroach into State or Local Authority? No.
- Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch? No.
- Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits? No.

## DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 375 would name a federal building and courthouse located in Nashville, Tennessee, after former [Senator Fred Thompson](#). He represented Tennessee from 1994 to 2003. Senator Thompson was also a well-known Hollywood actor, starring in roles on *Law and Order* and *The Hunt for Red October*. Thompson passed away in 2015.

## COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 375 was introduced on January 9, 2017 and was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The committee marked up and reported the bill on [February 28, 2017](#) by a voice vote.

## ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Necessary and Proper Clause”. No specific enumerating clause was cited.

# H.R. 1174 - Fairness For Breastfeeding Mothers Act of 2017 (Del. Holmes Norton, D-DC)

CONTACT: [Matt Dickerson](#), 202-226-7819

## FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on March 7, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

## TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1174](#) would require federal buildings that are open to the public to have publicly available lactation rooms.

## COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

## CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** Yes.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

## DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 1174 would require [federal buildings that are open to the public](#) (including in the Capitol complex) that have a lactation room for employees that work in the building to ensure that the public has access to a lactation room. A lactation room is defined as a hygienic place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view, free from intrusion, and contains a chair, a working surface, and an electrical outlet with power available. There is an exception to this requirement if new construction would be required to create a lactation room in the public building and the cost of such construction is unfeasible.

## COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1174 was introduced on February 16, 2017 and was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The committee marked up and reported the bill on [February 28, 2017](#) by a voice vote.

## ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

“Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.” No specific enumerating clause was cited.

# S. 442 – National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017 (Sen. Cruz, R-TX)

CONTACT: [Jennifer Weinhart](#), 202-226-0706

## FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on February 27, 2017 under a suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 majority for passage.

## TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[S. 442](#) would authorize the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, providing \$19.5 billion for fiscal year 2017, \$200 million over the FY2016 enacted level.

## COST:

A Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is not yet available. The bill would provide \$19.5 billion for NASA, an amount consistent with that approved by the Appropriations Committee.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

## CONSERVATIVE VIEWPOINTS:

This legislation addresses the fact that NASA has continued to operate unauthorized since 2010. The RSC has repeatedly criticized the process by which programs continue to receive funding without undergoing a Congressional authorization process. Many conservatives will be pleased that this bill aims to address part of that problem.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** This legislation does include some new programming.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

## DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

This legislation would reauthorize NASA, which last received an authorization in 2010, with funding recommendations through 2013. NASA has been operating unauthorized since the 2013 funding recommendations expired. Though this legislation only provides funding for FY2017, it includes several policy recommendations that would likely not expire for most NASA programs. NASA last received full-year funding through the 2016 omnibus and presently is operating under temporary funding under the continuing resolution through the end of April.

This legislation would authorize the following:

- \$4.33 billion for exploration.
- \$5.023 billion for space operations.
- \$5.5 billion for science programs.
- \$640 million for aeronautics research.

- \$686 million for space technology.
- \$115 million for education.
- \$2.78 billion for safety, security and mission services.
- \$338 million for construction and environmental compliance and restoration.
- \$37.4 million for NASA's inspector general.

Title II reaffirms the sense of Congress that the United States must sustain national space commitments, including the Orion Crew Capsule and the Space Launch System, and the James Webb Space Telescope, must expand science and exploration programs, and must improve efficiency and effectiveness. It includes a detailed findings section, which includes thoughts on the importance of America's space investments.

Title III would detail how to maximize usage of the International Space Station (ISS) and low-earth orbit. This title would support full usage of the ISS through at least 2024. It calls for the decrease in foreign dependence by requiring the usage of American transport to get astronauts to the ISS, unless there isn't the ability. It would reaffirm American commitment to the ISS and would address the priorities of the [Commercial Crew Program](#) to focus on safety and cost effectiveness. It would allow for open competition for commercial space services whenever feasible. It includes the sense of Congress that a successful Commercial Resupply Services Program and Commercial Crew Program are critical to supplying the ISS, and reaffirms the need for the United States to be able to launch American astronauts into space on its own.

This title would require NASA to submit several reports, including a report to Congress every 2 years on the deep-space research goals of the ISS. It would require a report on lessons learned from Commercial Resupply Services. Within one year following enactment, this title would also require NASA and other relevant federal agencies to create a 20-year plan for low-Earth orbit communications and navigational requirements, including 5-year funding projections. It would also recognize that a transition from a NASA-sponsored regime to a commercial regime for low-Earth orbit services may be necessary.

Title III would also provide for the indemnification of private launch and re-entry providers from liability to third parties. Service providers would be required to obtain liability insurance, or the ability to cover the likely loss arising from third-party claims. Losses pertaining to injury, death, or private property damage would not be permitted to exceed \$500 million, and losses to government property would not be permitted to exceed \$100 million. In certain circumstances, it would provide for claims to be waived. NASA could only provide damages payments in the event of appropriated funds.

Title IV would address human deep-space exploration by setting long-term goals to expand human presence beyond low-earth orbit, including usage of the SLS and Orion, prioritizing the human exploration of Mars, and requiring NASA to engage outside partners in undertaking activities to achieve human habitation on Mars. It would also reaffirm that it is the policy of the United States to maintain uninterrupted capability for human space flight.

This title reaffirms that while NASA continues to work towards its mission to Mars by the 2030s, NASA should continue to advance programs like Orion, SLS, and other related exploration ground systems. It would require NASA to submit a report to Congress on the Orion program and a report on the SLS.

Title IV also establishes a human exploration road map, detailing a set of comprehensive goals and objectives required for human missions to Mars by the targeted deadline. It would provide for the ability to collaborate with other nations and industries, and would require a plan that includes priorities and timelines. The roadmap must be submitted by December 1, 2017 and would be updated at least every 2 years. It would also require a plan for advanced spacesuit capability. It also includes a sense of Congress that the Asteroid Robotic Redirection Mission has not produced benefits that are commensurate with the costs.

This title would require NASA to contract with an outside independent firm to study a human mission to Mars that would occur in 2033.

Title IV includes the text for the [TREAT Astronaut Act](#), to provide for medical monitoring, diagnosis, and treatment for health issues arising from human space flight. The program would recognize the importance of long term space flight and address the health risks associated with such space flight. Former astronauts would not be subject to deductibles, co-pays, or cost-sharing obligations. It would require NASA to undergo studies on the issue and submit a report to Congress. This legislation is similar to H.R. 6076, which [passed](#) in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress by a vote of 413-0.

Title V would address the advancement of space science to ensure balanced priorities. It includes the sense of Congress that the administration should support planetary science. It would include the purpose of searching for the origin of life, its evolution, distribution, and future. It would require NASA to enter into an agreement with the National Academies to develop a science strategy to look at the potential for an assessment of Mars exploration architecture and the study of extrasolar planets.

Title V would prohibit NASA from terminating the [Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy](#) prior to the close of 2017. The title would also require NASA to submit a number of reports on science programs to Congress. It also includes a sense of Congress that lays out what Congress believes are the science priorities of NASA, including the James Webb Telescope, the Mars 2020 rover mission, the Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope, and the mission to Europa.

Title VI would address aeronautics, requiring NASA to create road maps for hypersonic and supersonic aircraft research and rotorcraft research. It includes the sense of Congress that NASA needs to be at the cutting edge of aeronautics research.

Title VII addresses space technology, including the sense of Congress that NASA needs to develop technologies to make its core missions more affordable. It also encourages NASA to create a class of missions beyond low-earth orbit and to improve propulsion technologies for such missions, including to reduce travel time to Mars. It would authorize NASA to establish a program to research and develop space technology which would include a competitive process to select projects. The space technology program would oversee small-business innovation research, as well as the technology transfer programs. It would prohibit program duplication, and would require a report to Congress.

Title VIII would address the maximization of efficiency. It would include provisions pertaining to IT and cybersecurity, encouraging coordination and cooperation to improve technology and oversight. It would require the establishment a strategic plan to manage information technology and would require NASA to create a cybersecurity plan for IT and for web applications. Title VIII would require a GAO study on NASA's IT governance and would also require NASA to comply with a 2014 NASA audit report, encouraging NASA to remove all web applications that are in development from its website. Finally it would require NASA to notify Congress that it has implemented recommendations pertaining to the access of foreign nationals to information technology.

Title VIII would require NASA mission directorate to improve collaboration by continuing support for the relationship between the Launch Services Program and the Commercial Crew Program using acquisitions. It would require NASA to identify satellites that need servicing and requires the identification of opportunities for private sector collaboration. It would encourage student engagement initiatives and would require a report to Congress on near-term plans for advancing space law education.

Title VIII also addresses the detection of counterfeit parts, detailing where parts can be obtained, and requirements for covered contractors. Contractors would be required to avoid counterfeit parts. Suppliers

must meet industry standards, but contractors would be required to take responsibility for the authenticity of the parts used. Contractors would be required to notify Congress of any counterfeit parts discovered.

It would also require NASA to develop payloads, and would require NASA to address the preservation of the Apollo lunar landing sites. It would require an assessment of the advisory council and a report on the mitigation of space debris using cooperation with foreign nations. Title VIII would also require NASA to address, and when possible mitigate, deterioration to its infrastructure.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

S. 442 was introduced on February 17, 2017, and was passed by unanimous consent the same day.

**ADMINISTRATION POSITION:**

A Statement of Administration Policy is not yet available.

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:**

Measures originating in the Senate do not require a constitutional authority statement.

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**NOTE:** *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*

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