Strategic Space Commodities Reserve Act of 2025

A BILL

To establish a Strategic Space Commodities Reserve within the Office of Space Commerce in the Department of Commerce, to ensure the availability of critical in-space infrastructure materials through a market-based buyer-of-last-resort mechanism, and for other purposes.

Section 1. Short Title

This Act may be cited as the "Strategic Space Commodities Reserve Act of 2025".

Sec. 2. Establishment of the Strategic Space Commodities Reserve

- (a) There is established within the Office of Space Commerce in the Department of Commerce the Strategic Space Commodities Reserve (in this Act referred to as the "Reserve").
- (b) The purpose of the Reserve is to ensure the availability of critical materials for space infrastructure, support market stability, and promote United States leadership in commercial space development.

Sec. 3. Administrator

- (a) The Secretary of Commerce shall designate a career appointee in the Senior Executive Service to serve as the Administrator of the Reserve.
- (b) Until such time as Congress appropriates specific funds for the hiring of a distinct Administrator under subsection (a), the Director of the Office of Space Commerce shall serve as the Administrator of the Strategic Space Commodities Reserve.
- (c) The Administrator shall be responsible for executing all duties under this Act, including procurement, storage, resale, and policy administration.

Sec. 4. Authorities and Responsibilities

- (a) The Administrator may enter into contracts for the acquisition of strategic space commodities, provided that no payment shall be made until physical delivery and verified acceptance at a government-designated depot or facility.
- (b) The United States Government shall act as a buyer of last resort for any approved commodity delivered to a designated depot. Such commodities may be resold to commercial customers if not encumbered for government use, with proceeds returned to the Strategic Commodities Reserve Fund.
- (c) The Administrator may encumber any quantity of eligible commodities for national security or infrastructure resilience purposes. Encumbered commodities shall not be available for commercial resale except upon Presidential directive.
- (d)(1) The Administrator shall maintain and publish a list of approved strategic space commodities and their acceptable forms, specifications, and transfer protocols.
- (d)(2) Criteria for inclusion shall include: existing or anticipated market demand; compatibility with depot infrastructure; relevance to national space logistics and infrastructure; and potential to promote strategic resilience.
- (d)(3) Changes to the list shall be published in the Federal Register at least 30 days in advance and shall not require rulemaking under 5 U.S.C. § 553.

Sec. 5. Strategic Commodities Reserve Fund

- (a) There is established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the Strategic Commodities Reserve Fund (in this Act referred to as the "Fund").
- (b) Amounts in the Fund shall remain available until expended to carry out this Act.
- (c) There is hereby appropriated to the Fund, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to make payments for commodities delivered and accepted pursuant to contracts under this Act.
- (d) Proceeds from any resale of Reserve commodities shall be deposited into the Fund and remain available for future obligations.

Sec. 6. Pricing and Transportation Costs

- (a) The Administrator shall ensure that all procurement contracts under this Act clearly separate: (1) The unit commodity price, determined based on fair market value; and (2) The transportation cost, including launch, in-space maneuvering, and delivery to the depot.
- (b) Payment shall be made only upon verified physical delivery and acceptance of the commodity, and shall reflect both commodity price and verified transportation costs, provided that total cost does not exceed contractual terms.

Sec. 7. Oversight and Reporting

- (a) Within 30 days of acceptance of any commodity into the Reserve, the Administrator shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and relevant oversight committees.
- (b) The Government Accountability Office shall conduct an audit of Reserve operations every 3 years and submit its findings to Congress.

Sec. 8. Definitions

- (1) The term "strategic space commodity" means any physical good that (A) is required for in-space logistics, habitation, propulsion, or infrastructure; (B) can be transferred or stored at a designated depot; (C) has commercial or governmental market value; and (D) is approved by the Administrator for inclusion in the Reserve.
- (2) The term "depot" means any facility designated by the Administrator for the delivery, storage, or redistribution of strategic space commodities, including orbital and surface-based installations.
- (3) The term "encumbrance" means a designation by the Administrator that a quantity of commodity is reserved for government use and is not available for resale.