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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study, and publish guidance, on the conversion of rural abandoned factories, space centers, and military bases into space-related manufacturing facilities and space complexes, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study, and publish guidance, on the conversion of rural abandoned factories, space centers, and military bases into space-related manufacturing facilities and space complexes, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rural American Vital-
5 ization in Extraterrestrial Space Reporting Act of 2025”
6 or the “RAVES Reporting Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDY AND GUIDANCE ON CONVERSION OF RURAL,**
2 **ABANDONED FACTORIES INTO SPACE-RE-**
3 **LATED MANUFACTURING FACILITIES.**

4 (a) STUDY.—Not later than one year after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense,
6 acting through the Office of Local Defense Community
7 Cooperation, and in consultation with the Office of Space
8 Affairs of the Department of State and the Small Busi-
9 ness Development Center of the Small Business Adminis-
10 tration, shall conduct a study, and publish guidance, on
11 the conversion of abandoned factories, space centers, and
12 military bases in rural areas into space-related manufac-
13 turing facilities and space complexes.

14 (b) ELEMENTS.—The study and guidance required
15 under subsection (a) shall include information relating to
16 the following:

17 (1) On average and by State, the cost of con-
18 versions of abandoned factories, and space centers,
19 and abandoned military bases in rural areas into
20 space-related manufacturing facilities and space
21 complexes.

22 (2) Greatest needs for terrestrial space manu-
23 facturing.

24 (3) Environmental and sustainability concerns
25 relating to such conversions.

1 (4) Impact on local economies of region in
2 which such conversions are carried out.

3 (5) Technical skills and relevant education
4 needed for construction workers, engineers, sci-
5 entists, and other elements of the workforce relating
6 to such conversions, as well as for the operation of
7 such facilities.

8 (6) Potential for collaboration with local com-
9 munity colleges relating to such conversions.

10 (7) Effects of artificial intelligence on workforce
11 development relating to such conversions.

12 (8) The number of factories and military bases
13 in rural areas abandoned as of 2025.

14 (9) Potential for development within rural com-
15 munities relating to such conversions.

16 (10) Viable sources of potential funding or in-
17 centives for private sector entities for such conver-
18 sions.

19 (11) Potential national security implications re-
20 lating to such conversions, in particular with regard
21 to United States adversaries and the Space Com-
22 mand.

23 (12) An estimate of the time required to com-
24 plete such conversions.

1 (13) Input from private and public entities that
2 have collaborated or currently collaborate with the
3 National Aeronautics and Space Administration
4 (NASA) regarding space manufacturing.

5 (14) An analysis undertaken in consultation
6 with outside experts in the aerospace field on the
7 current state of the aerospace industry in rural
8 areas of the United States, including a description
9 of best practices relating to such conversions.

10 (c) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of
11 Defense shall submit to Congress the study and guidance
12 required under subsection (a).

13 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) ABANDONED.—The term “abandoned”
15 means out of use or underutilized for at least five
16 years, with no apparent plans to restart production
17 or repurpose for other uses.

18 (2) FACTORY.—The term “factory” means an
19 industrial facility for manufacturing goods or parts.

20 (3) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area”, with
21 respect to an abandoned factory, space center, or
22 military base, means such a factory, center, or base,
23 as the case may be, that is located in any area other
24 than—

1 (A) a city or town that has a population of
2 greater than 50,000 inhabitants; or

3 (B) any urbanized area contiguous and ad-
4 jacent to a city or town described in subpara-
5 graph (A).

6 (4) SPACE COMPLEX.—The term “space com-
7 plex” means a group of buildings designed for the
8 purpose of building spacecraft, instruments, or tech-
9 nologies to study space, or testing or launching such
10 devices.