

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2997
OFFERED BY MR. LEWIS OF MINNESOTA

At the end of title VI, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . AVIATION AND AEROSPACE WORKFORCE OF THE**
2 **FUTURE.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

4 (1) in 2016, United States air carriers carried
5 a record high number of passengers on domestic
6 flights, 719 million passengers;

7 (2) the United States aerospace and defense in-
8 dustry employed 1.7 million workers in 2015, or
9 roughly 2 percent of the Nation’s total employment
10 base;

11 (3) the average salary of an employee in the
12 aerospace and defense industry is 44 percent above
13 the national average;

14 (4) in 2015, the aerospace and defense industry
15 contributed nearly \$202.4 billion in value added to
16 the United States economy;

17 (5) an effective aviation industry relies on indi-
18 viduals with unique skill sets, many of which can be
19 directly obtained through career and technical edu-
20 cation opportunities; and

1 (6) industry and the Federal Government have
2 taken some actions to attract qualified individuals to
3 careers in aviation and aerospace and to retain
4 qualified individuals in such careers.

5 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
6 gress that—

7 (1) public and private education institutions
8 should make available to students and parents infor-
9 mation on approved programs of study and career
10 pathways, including career exploration, work-based
11 learning opportunities, dual and concurrent enroll-
12 ment opportunities, and guidance and advisement
13 resources;

14 (2) public and private education institutions
15 should partner with aviation and aerospace compa-
16 nies to promote career paths available within the in-
17 dustry and share information on the unique benefits
18 and opportunities the career paths offer;

19 (3) aviation companies, including air carriers,
20 manufacturers, commercial space companies, un-
21 manned aircraft system companies, and repair sta-
22 tions, should create opportunities, through appren-
23 ticeships or other mechanisms, to attract young peo-
24 ple to aviation and aerospace careers and to enable

1 individuals to gain the critical skills needed to thrive
2 in such professions; and

3 (4) the Federal Government should consider the
4 needs of men and women interested in pursuing ca-
5 reers in the aviation and aerospace industry, the
6 long-term personnel needs of the aviation and aero-
7 space industry, and the role of aviation in the
8 United States economy in the creation and adminis-
9 tration of educational and financial aid programs.

10 **SEC. ____.** **FUTURE AVIATION AND AEROSPACE WORK-**
11 **FORCE STUDY.**

12 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the
13 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
14 of the United States shall conduct a study—

15 (1) to identify the factors influencing the supply
16 of individuals pursuing a career in the aviation or
17 aerospace industry; and

18 (2) to identify best practices or programs to
19 incentivize, recruit, and retain young people in avia-
20 tion and aerospace professions.

21 (b) **CONSULTATION.**—The Comptroller General shall
22 conduct the study in consultation with—

23 (1) appropriate Federal agencies; and

24 (2) aviation and aerospace industry, institutions
25 of higher education, and labor stakeholders.

1 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
3 General shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
4 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and
5 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
6 of the Senate a report on the results of the study and
7 related recommendations.

