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Media Contact:
202-225-2571
Jamie Gahun
jamie.gahun@mail.house.gov

Culberson Testifies at Science Committee Hearing

Washington, D.C. — Today, Representative John Culberson (TX-07) testified in front of the House Science Committee on his [Space Leadership Preservation Act](#). This bill creates stability for NASA by putting in place a long-term leadership structure that will help eliminate changing priorities of changing presidential administrations so that the experts at NASA have a clear mission directive that can be funded by Congress to maintain America's leadership role in space exploration.

Congressman Culberson released the following statement after the hearing:

“Some of my best memories as a boy growing up in Houston were of the space program. All of my earliest heroes were the Apollo astronauts, but the glory days of Apollo seem to be behind us. NASA has endured numerous program cancellations and seems to have lost focus on exploration.

This past year I provided NASA with the largest appropriation they have ever received since the agency was created in 1958, but this is year to year effort, and it is too reliant on who is in the White House.

We simply have to give NASA greater stability. We need to make this agency less political and more professional and give them the ability to see far into the future with the knowledge and confidence that Congress will be there behind them.”

Science Committee Chairman Lamar Smith (TX-21) released the following statement after the hearing:

“Presidential transitions often have provided a challenge to NASA programs that require continuity and budget stability. But few have been as rocky as the administration change we experienced seven years ago. Today we are discussing how to provide that stability to NASA once again as we look toward a presidential transition in less than a year. My friend and colleague from Texas, Rep. John Culberson, has a bill that seeks to do just that. I thank Rep. Culberson for his leadership on this issue

and I am a cosponsor of this legislation. We share the goal of providing NASA with long-term consistent support.”

Watch the clip of Rep. Culberson’s testimony [here](#).

The full video of today’s hearing is available [here](#).

The chart illustrating NASA program cancellations is available [here](#).

A copy of the Space Leadership Act of 2015 (H.R. 2093) is attached.

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