

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND NEED

### **PURPOSE OF THE BILL**

The purpose of the *Space Commerce Act of 2007* is to amend the *Technology Administration Act of 1998* (15 U.S.C. §1511e(a)) to update the current law, as it applies to the Department of Commerce's Office of Space Commercialization.

### **NEED**

The Office of Space Commercialization, currently funded within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and authorized within the Department of Commerce under the *Technology Administration Act of 1998*, is the principal unit for space commerce policy activities within the Department of Commerce. This legislation proposes to restore the Office's original name, "Office of Space Commerce," to more accurately reflect its space commerce responsibilities. In addition, the legislation seeks to update the Office's functions to reflect the current state of the U.S. space commerce industry. The legislation streamlines the functions of the Office to preserve flexibility for the Department in executing the Office's responsibilities.

The proposed legislation also expands the Office's responsibilities supporting the Administration's Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT) policy to include its stewardship of the National Space-Based PNT Coordination Office.