

Thune-1

CAN19940

S.L.C.

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To express the sense of Congress on next generation communications technology.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—116th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 2800

To authorize programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. UDALL)

Viz:

1 At the end of title V, add the following:

2 **SEC. 5___. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NEXT GENERATION**
3 **COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that—

5 (1) optical communications technologies—

6 (A) will be critical to the development of
7 next generation space-based communications
8 networks;

9 (B) have the potential to allow NASA to
10 expand the volume of data transmissions in low-
11 Earth orbit and deep space; and

1 (C) may provide more secure and cost-ef-
2 fective solutions than current radio frequency
3 communications systems;

4 (2) quantum encryption technology has prom-
5 ising implications for the security of the satellite and
6 terrestrial communications networks of the United
7 States, including optical communications networks,
8 and further research and development by NASA
9 with respect to quantum encryption is essential to
10 maintaining the security of the United States and
11 United States leadership in space; and

12 (3) in order to provide NASA with more secure
13 and reliable space-based communications, the Space
14 Communications and Navigation program office of
15 NASA should continue—

16 (A) to support research on and develop-
17 ment of optical communications; and

18 (B) to develop quantum encryption capa-
19 bilities, especially as those capabilities apply to
20 optical communications networks.