COBURN AMENDMENT 636: STREAMLINE NASA TO FOCUS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

This amendment would modify the government reform DNRF to prohibit NASA from funding activities already pursued by other federal agencies, to streamline the agency’s operations and focus.

- NASA has historically been one of America’s engines of innovation and technological change, but the agency has drifted in the last few decades.
- The space agency’s activities are now comprised of energy conservation, education programs, climate change research, and more. In addition, the agency also funds extramural research that may be receiving support from other federal agencies.
- The Obama Administration has also proposed reducing low-priority programs at the agency with the Office of Education, which has an annual budget of $184 million.
- While some space junkies argue NASA needs more funding, they should also advocate for a leaner agency that no longer uses funds for activities already supported (or better managed by) other agencies.