§ 30901. Congressional Space Medal of Honor

(a) AUTHORITY TO AWARD.—The President may award, and present in the name of Congress, a medal of appropriate design, which shall be known as the Congressional Space Medal of Honor, to any astronaut who in the performance of the astronaut's duties has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious efforts and contributions to the welfare of the Nation and of humankind.

(b) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from time to time such sums of money as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(Pub. L. 111–314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3371.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	*Source (U.S. Code)*	*Source (Statutes at Large)*
30901(a)	42 U.S.C. 2461 (1st par.).	Pub. L. 91–76, § 1, Sept. 29, 1969, 83 Stat. 124.
30901(b)	42 U.S.C. 2461 (last par.).	Pub. L. 91–76, § 2, Sept. 29, 1969, 83 Stat. 124.

§ 30902. Charles "Pete" Conrad Astronomy Awards

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Charles 'Pete' Conrad Astronomy Awards Act''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AMATEUR ASTRONOMER.—The term ''amateur astronomer'' means an individual whose employer does not provide any funding, payment, or compensation to the individual for the observation of asteroids and other celestial bodies, and does not include any individual employed as a professional astronomer.

(2) MINOR PLANET CENTER.—The term ''Minor Planet Center'' means the Minor Planet Center of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

(3) NEAR-EARTH ASTEROID.—The term ''near-Earth asteroid'' means an asteroid with a perihelion distance of less than 1.3 Astronomical Units from the Sun.

(4) PROGRAM.—The term ''Program'' means the Charles ''Pete'' Conrad Astronomy Awards Program established under subsection (c).

(c) CHARLES ''PETE'' CONRAD ASTRONOMY AWARDS PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish the Charles ''Pete'' Conrad Astronomy Awards Program.

(2) AWARDS.—The Administrator shall make awards under the Program based on the recommendations of the Minor Planet Center.

(3) AWARD CATEGORIES.—The Administrator shall make one annual award, unless there are no eligible discoveries or contributions, for each of the following categories:

(A) DISCOVERY OF BRIGHTEST NEAR-EARTH ASTEROID.—The amateur astronomer or group of amateur astronomers who in the preceding calendar year discovered the intrinsically brightest near-Earth asteroid among the near-Earth asteroids that were discovered during that year by amateur astronomers or groups of amateur astronomers.

(B) GREATEST CONTRIBUTION TO CATALOGUING NEAR-EARTH ASTEROIDS.—The amateur astronomer or group of amateur astronomers who made the greatest contribution to the Minor Planet Center's mission of cataloguing near-Earth asteroids during the preceding year.

(4) AWARD AMOUNT.—An award under the Program shall be in the amount of $3,000.

(5) GUIDELINES.—

(A) CITIZEN OR PERMANENT RESIDENT.—No individual who is not a citizen or permanent resident of the United States at the time of the individual's discovery or contribution may receive an award under this section.

(B) FINALITY.—The decisions of the Administrator in making awards under this section are final.

(Pub. L. 111–314, § 3, Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3372.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	*Source (U.S. Code)*	*Source (Statutes at Large)*
30902	42 U.S.C. 16792.	Pub. L. 109–155, title VI, § 613, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2932.

CHAPTER 311—SAFETY

Sec.
31101. Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel.
31102. Drug and alcohol testing.

§ 31101. Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERS.—There is established an Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel consisting of a maximum of 9 members who shall be appointed by the Administrator for terms of 6 years each. Not more than 4 such members shall be chosen from among the officers and employees of the Administration.

(b) CHAIRMAN.—One member shall be designated by the Panel as its Chairman.

(c) DUTIES.—The Panel shall—

(1) review safety studies and operations plans referred to it, including evaluating the Administration's compliance with the return-to-flight and continue-to-fly recommendations of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board, and make reports thereon;

(2) advise the Administrator and Congress with respect to—

(A) the hazards of proposed or existing facilities and proposed operations;

(B) the adequacy of proposed or existing safety standards; and

(C) management and culture related to safety; and

(3) perform such other duties as the Administrator may request.

(d) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

(1) COMPENSATION.—

(A) FEDERAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—A member of the Panel who is an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall receive no compensation for the member's services as such.

(B) MEMBERS APPOINTED FROM OUTSIDE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—A member of the Panel appointed from outside the Federal Government shall receive compensation, at a rate not to exceed the per diem rate equiv-