

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3703

To establish a program to provide student fellowships in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, with preference given to the study of technological development encompassing the fields of energy, environment, and economy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 16, 2011

Mr. INSLEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To establish a program to provide student fellowships in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, with preference given to the study of technological development encompassing the fields of energy, environment, and economy.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fellowships for Under-
5 graduate Training and Useful Research in Energy-related
6 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics fields
7 Act” or “FUTURE STEM Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) STEM.—The term “STEM” has the mean-
4 ing given to that term in section 2 of the America
5 COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010.

6 (2) E3.—The term “E3” means the academic
7 and professional area of technological development
8 encompassing the fields of energy, environment, and
9 economy.

10 **SEC. 3. FELLOWSHIPS FOR STEM PROJECTS WITH PREF-**
11 **ERENCE TO E3.**

12 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy
13 shall establish an undergraduate student fellowships pilot
14 program to award competitive grants to partner institu-
15 tions to provide work experience in STEM fields that will
16 overall improve education and training in support of
17 STEM fields. Grants under this section may be used for—

18 (1) employing eligible students for 10-week re-
19 search fellowships with partner institutions;

20 (2) approved travel and housing expenses for
21 student fellows;

22 (3) purchasing, renting, or leasing of equip-
23 ment, instrumentation, and other educational and
24 training materials needed to satisfy the student re-
25 search fellowships;

1 (4) supporting outreach efforts to recruit stu-
2 dents;

3 (5) encouraging collaboration between govern-
4 ment, industry, and academic partners; and

5 (6) assessing the activities funded under this
6 Act.

7 (b) PARTNERS.—Grants awarded under subsection
8 (a) shall be to a partner institution that—

9 (1) is a 2-year degree granting institution of
10 higher education offering an associate degree in a
11 STEM field;

12 (2) is a 4-year degree granting institution of
13 higher education;

14 (3) is a business, nonprofit organization, or
15 labor organization; or

16 (4) is a State educational agency, other public
17 agency, or National Laboratory.

18 (c) PREFERENCE.—The Secretary of Energy shall
19 give preference to awarding grants under this section to
20 partner institutions—

21 (1) whose proposal incorporates E3 concepts;

22 (2) whose proposal includes student work expe-
23 rience with emphasis on research;

1 (3) who demonstrate that they will employ stu-
2 dents from groups that have been historically under-
3 represented in STEM fields; and

4 (4) who can demonstrate the likely long-term
5 stability of the program without continued Federal
6 funding.

7 (d) ELIGIBILITY.—A student is eligible for employ-
8 ment under subsection (a) if the student—

9 (1) is at least 18 years of age on the date of
10 submission of the grant application and—

11 (A) is a high school student who has been
12 officially accepted to begin undergraduate stud-
13 ies at least half-time within 6 months of high
14 school graduation; or

15 (B) is enrolled as an undergraduate stu-
16 dent at least half-time at a degree granting in-
17 stitution;

18 (2) in the case of a student described in para-
19 graph (1)(B), has achieved at a minimum a 3.0 un-
20 dergraduate cumulative grade point average; and

21 (3) is a citizen or permanent resident of the
22 United States.

23 (e) STUDENT ALLOWANCES.—An eligible under-
24 graduate student employed using grant funds awarded
25 under subsection (a) shall receive—

1 (1) \$4,500 direct salary stipend; and

2 (2) reimbursement up to \$2,000 for approved
3 housing and travel expenses.

4 (f) DIVERSITY OF SUBJECT MATTER.—The Sec-
5 retary of Energy shall ensure that, to the extent possible,
6 grants are provided under this Act for projects rep-
7 resenting a wide diversity of STEM fields.

8 (g) LIMITATION.—No single grant under subsection
9 (a) may be made in an amount greater than \$10,000 per
10 year.

11 (h) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The Secretary of En-
12 ergy shall make publicly available all planning documents
13 and other materials related to a project supported by a
14 grant made under this Act.

15 (i) PROJECT REPORTS.—The Secretary of Energy
16 shall require grant recipients under subsection (a) to sub-
17 mit a report to the Secretary, not later than 1 year after
18 receiving the grant, on the results of the project supported
19 by the grant. Each such report shall include an assessment
20 of which elements of the project supported with the grant
21 were successful and which were not, along with an identi-
22 fication and analysis of improvements that could have
23 made the project more successful. The Secretary shall
24 make all reports submitted under this subsection available
25 to the public.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

2 The Secretary of Energy shall evaluate the effective-
3 ness of activities carried out under this Act. A report docu-
4 menting the results of that evaluation shall be submitted
5 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce and
6 the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House
7 of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and
8 Natural Resources and the Committee on Health, Edu-
9 cation, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate not later than
10 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act. The report
11 shall identify best practices and materials developed and
12 demonstrated by partners awarded a grant.

13 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
15 this Act—

- 16 (1) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2012;
17 (2) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2013;
18 (3) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2014; and
19 (4) \$250,000 for fiscal year 2015.

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