

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 39

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 12, 2017

Received

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## AN ACT

To amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes.

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

**5 SEC. 2. PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM.**

9 “SUBCHAPTER V—PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION  
10 FELLOWS PROGRAM

“(a) **POLICY.**—It is in the national interest for the Government to attract the brightest minds skilled in technology or innovative practices to serve in the Government to work on some of the Nation’s biggest and most pressing challenges. This subchapter establishes a program to encourage successful entrepreneurs, executives, and innovators to join the Government and work in close cooperation with Government leaders, to create meaningful solutions that can help save lives and taxpayer money, fuel job creation, and significantly improve how the Government serves the American people.

23 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of Gen-  
24 eral Services shall continue the Presidential Innovation  
25 Fellows Program (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Pro-  
26 gram’) to enable exceptional individuals with proven track

1 records to serve time-limited appointments in executive  
2 agencies to address some of the Nation’s most significant  
3 challenges and improve existing Government efforts that  
4 would particularly benefit from expertise using innovative  
5 techniques and technology.

6 “(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Program shall be ad-  
7 ministered by a Director, appointed by the Administrator  
8 under authorities of the General Services Administration.  
9 The Administrator shall provide necessary staff, resources  
10 and administrative support for the Program.

11 “(d) APPOINTMENT OF FELLOWS.—The Director  
12 shall appoint fellows pursuant to the Program and, in co-  
13 operation with executive agencies, shall facilitate place-  
14 ment of fellows to participate in projects that have the  
15 potential for significant positive effects and are consistent  
16 with the President’s goals.

17 “(e) APPLICATION PROCESS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall pre-  
19 scribe the process for applications and nominations  
20 of individuals to the Program.

21 “(2) PROGRAM STANDARDS.—Following publi-  
22 cation of these processes, the Director may accept  
23 for consideration applications from individuals. The  
24 Director shall establish, administer, review, and re-  
25 vise, if appropriate, a Governmentwide cap on the

1        number of fellows. The Director shall establish and  
2        publish salary ranges, benefits, and standards for  
3        the Program.

4        “(f) SELECTION, APPOINTMENT, AND ASSIGNMENT  
5 OF FELLOWS.—

6                “(1) PROCEDURES.—The Director shall pre-  
7        scribe appropriate procedures for the selection, ap-  
8        pointment, and assignment of fellows.

9                “(2) CONSULTATION.—Prior to the selection of  
10       fellows, the Director shall consult with the heads of  
11       executive agencies regarding potential projects and  
12       how best to meet those needs. Following such con-  
13       sultation, the Director shall select and appoint indi-  
14       viduals to serve as fellows.

15               “(3) TIME LIMITATION.—Fellows selected for  
16       the Program shall serve under short-term, time-lim-  
17       ited appointments. Such fellows shall be appointed  
18       for no less than 6 months and no longer than 2  
19       years in the Program. The Director shall facilitate  
20       the process of placing fellows at requesting executive  
21       agencies.

22               “(g) RESPONSIBILITIES OF AGENCIES.—Each execu-  
23       tive agency shall work with the Director and the Presi-  
24       dential Innovation Fellows Program advisory board estab-  
25       lished under section 3172 to attempt to maximize the Pro-

1 gram’s benefits to the agency and the Government, includ-  
2 ing by identifying initiatives that have a meaningful effect  
3 on the people served and that benefit from involvement  
4 by one or more fellows. Such agencies shall ensure that  
5 each fellow works closely with responsible senior officials  
6 for the duration of the assignment.

7 **“§ 3172. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program ad-**  
8 **visory board**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of General  
10 Services shall continue an advisory board to advise the Di-  
11 rector of the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program by  
12 recommending such priorities and standards as may be  
13 beneficial to fulfill the mission of the Presidential Innova-  
14 tion Fellows Program and assist in identifying potential  
15 projects and placements for fellows. The advisory board  
16 may not participate in the selection process under section  
17 3171(f).

18 “(b) CHAIR; MEMBERSHIP.—The Administrator shall  
19 designate a representative to serve as the Chair of the ad-  
20 visory board. In addition to the Chair, the membership  
21 of the advisory board shall include—

22 “(1) the Deputy Director for Management of  
23 the Office of Management and Budget;

24 “(2) the Director of the Office of Personnel  
25 Management;

1 “(3) the Administrator of the Office of Elec-  
 2 tronic Government of the Office of Management and  
 3 Budget;

4 “(4) the Assistant to the President and Chief  
 5 Technology Officer; and

6 “(5) other individuals as may be designated by  
 7 the Administrator.

8 “(c) CONSULTATION.—The advisory board may con-  
 9 sult with industry, academia, or nonprofits to ensure the  
 10 Presidential Innovation Fellows Program is continually  
 11 identifying opportunities to apply advanced skillsets and  
 12 innovative practices in effective ways to address the Na-  
 13 tion’s most significant challenges.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
 15 for chapter 31 of title 5, United States Code, is amended  
 16 by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER V—PRESIDENTIAL INNOVATION FELLOWS PROGRAM

“3171. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program.

“3172. Presidential Innovation Fellows Program advisory board.”.

17 (c) TRANSITION.—The Presidential Innovation Fel-  
 18 lows Program established pursuant to Executive Order  
 19 No. 13704 (5 U.S.C. 3301 note) as in existence on the  
 20 day before the date of enactment of this Act shall be con-  
 21 sidered the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program de-  
 22 scribed in the amendments made by this Act.

1       (d) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No ad-  
2       ditional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry  
3       out this Act or the amendments made by this Act. This  
4       Act and the amendments made by this Act shall be carried  
5       out using amounts otherwise authorized.

Passed the House of Representatives January 11,  
2017.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk.*