

Union Calendar No. 350

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4375

[Report No. 115-471]

To provide for a study on broadening participation in certain National Science Foundation research and education programs, to collect data on Federal research grants to science agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 13, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK (for herself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. KNIGHT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Additional sponsors: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut and Mrs. BUSTOS

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To provide for a study on broadening participation in certain National Science Foundation research and education programs, to collect data on Federal research grants to science agencies, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “STEM Research and
5 Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN STEM PROGRAM**
7 **EFFECTIVENESS STUDY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Na-
10 tional Science Foundation shall submit a report to Con-
11 gress on the effectiveness of all National Science Founda-
12 tion research and education programs for broadening the
13 participation of women and other historically underrep-
14 resented individuals in STEM studies and careers, includ-
15 ing—

16 (1) development or identification of perform-
17 ance metrics to evaluate such programs;

18 (2) information on student outcomes using all
19 available data, including dropout rates, enrollment in
20 graduate programs, internships or apprenticeships,
21 and employment;

22 (3) identification of any data gaps for evalu-
23 ating the effectiveness and outcomes of National
24 Science Foundation programs to broaden participa-
25 tion; and

1 (4) recommendations for maintaining, trans-
2 lating, and disseminating outcomes data for STEM
3 programs funded by the National Science Founda-
4 tion.

5 (b) DEFINITION OF STEM.—In this section, the
6 term “STEM” has the meaning given the term in section
7 2 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of
8 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6621 note).

9 **SEC. 3. COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF DATA ON FED-**
10 **ERAL RESEARCH GRANTS.**

11 (a) COLLECTION OF DATA.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal science agency
13 shall collect standardized record-level annual infor-
14 mation on demographics, primary field, award type,
15 review rating, budget request, funding outcome, and
16 awarded budget for all applications for merit-re-
17 viewed research and development grants to institu-
18 tions of higher education and Federal laboratories
19 supported by that agency.

20 (2) UNIFORMITY AND STANDARDIZATION.—The
21 Director shall establish a policy to ensure uniformity
22 and standardization of the data collection required
23 under paragraph (1).

24 (3) RECORD-LEVEL DATA.—

1 (A) REQUIREMENT.—On an annual basis,
2 beginning with the deadline under subpara-
3 graph (C), each Federal science agency shall
4 submit to the Director of the National Science
5 Foundation record-level data collected under
6 paragraph (1) in the form required by such Di-
7 rector.

8 (B) PREVIOUS DATA.—As part of the first
9 submission under subparagraph (A), each Fed-
10 eral science agency, to the extent practicable,
11 shall submit comparable record-level data for
12 the 5 years preceding the deadline under sub-
13 paragraph (C).

14 (C) DEADLINE.—The deadline under this
15 paragraph is not later than 1 year after the
16 date of enactment of this Act.

17 (b) REPORTING OF DATA.—The Director of the Na-
18 tional Science Foundation shall publish statistical sum-
19 mary data collected under this section, disaggregated and
20 cross-tabulated demographically and by years since com-
21 pletion of doctoral degree, including in conjunction with
22 the National Science Foundation’s report required by sec-
23 tion 37 of the Science and Technology Equal Opportuni-
24 ties Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d; Public Law 96–516).

25 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
2 the Director of the Office of Science and Technology
3 Policy.

4 (2) FEDERAL LABORATORY.—The term “Fed-
5 eral laboratory” has the meaning given that term in
6 section 4 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Inno-
7 vation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703).

8 (3) FEDERAL SCIENCE AGENCY.—The term
9 “Federal science agency” means any Federal agency
10 with at least \$100,000,000 in research and develop-
11 ment expenditures in fiscal year 2017.

12 (4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
13 term “institution of higher education” has the
14 meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the
15 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

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