

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 384

To require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2019

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, 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. FACILITATING THE ADOPTION OF COMPOSITE**
4 **TECHNOLOGY IN INFRASTRUCTURE.**

5 (a) RESEARCH.—The Secretary of Commerce, acting
6 through the Director of the National Institute of Stand-
7 ards and Technology, shall implement the recommenda-

1 tions contained in the December 2017 report entitled
2 “Road Mapping Workshop Report on Overcoming Bar-
3 riers to Adoption of Composites in Sustainable Infrastruc-
4 ture”, as appropriate, to help facilitate the adoption of
5 composite technology in infrastructure in the United
6 States. In implementing such recommendations, the Sec-
7 retary, acting through the Director shall, with respect to
8 the use of composite technology in infrastructure—

9 (1) not later than 9 months after the date of
10 the enactment of this Act, develop a design for a
11 data clearinghouse to identify, gather, validate, and
12 disseminate existing design criteria, tools, guidelines,
13 and standards in a timely manner;

14 (2) not later than 18 months after the date of
15 the enactment of this Act, establish the data clear-
16 inghouse described in paragraph (1); and

17 (3) develop methods and resources required for
18 testing and evaluating safe and appropriate uses of
19 composite materials for infrastructure, including—

20 (A) conditioning protocols, procedures and
21 models;

22 (B) screening and acceptance tools; and

23 (C) minimum allowable design data sets
24 that can be converted into design tools.

1 (b) STANDARDS COORDINATION.—The Secretary,
2 acting through the Director, shall assure that the appro-
3 priate Institute staff consult regularly with standards de-
4 velopers, members of the composites industry, institutions
5 of higher education, and other stakeholders in order to fa-
6 cilitate the adoption of standards for use of composite ma-
7 terials in infrastructure that are based on the research and
8 testing results and other information developed by the In-
9 stitute.

10 (c) PILOT PROGRAM.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Commencing not later than
12 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
13 the Director of the National Institute of Standards
14 and Technology shall, in consultation with the In-
15 dustry-University Cooperative Research Centers Pro-
16 gram of the National Science Foundation, conduct a
17 pilot program to assess the feasibility and advis-
18 ability of adopting composite technology in sustain-
19 able infrastructure.

20 (2) DURATION.—The Director shall carry out
21 the pilot program during the 4-year period beginning
22 on the date of the commencement of the pilot pro-
23 gram.

24 (3) REPORTS.—

1 (A) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Not later
2 than the date that is 2 years after the date of
3 the commencement of the pilot program, the
4 Director shall submit to the Committee on
5 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
6 Senate and the Committee on Science, Space,
7 and Technology of the House of Representa-
8 tives a report on the preliminary findings of the
9 Director with respect to the pilot program.

10 (B) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than the
11 date that is 90 days after the date of the com-
12 pletion of the pilot program, the Director shall
13 submit to the committees referred to in sub-
14 paragraph (A) a report on the findings of the
15 Director with respect to the pilot program.

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