

Union Calendar No. 654

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3029

[Report No. 119–751]

To amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act
to support nucleic acid screening, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2025

Ms. SALINAS (for herself and Mr. MCCORMICK) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

JULY 16, 2026

Additional sponsors: Ms. MCBRIDE and Mr. RILEY of New York

JULY 16, 2026

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

A BILL

To amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to support nucleic acid screening, 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 “Nucleic Acid Standards for
5 Biosecurity Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUPPORTING NUCLEIC ACID SCREENING.**

7 Section 10221 of the Research and Development,
8 Competition, and Innovation Act (42 U.S.C. 18931; en-
9 acted as part of title II of division B of Public Law 117–
10 167) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

12 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking
13 “and” after the semicolon;

14 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as
15 subparagraph (E); and

16 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (C)
17 the following new subparagraph:

18 “(D) best practices, guidelines, and tech-
19 nical standards for risk management associated
20 with engineering biology and biomanufacturing,
21 including risks associated with the use of artifi-
22 cial intelligence; and”;

23 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
24 subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

1 (3) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
2 lowing new subsection:

3 “(b) NUCLEIC ACID SYNTHESIS SCREENING TOOLS
4 AND STANDARDS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in consulta-
6 tion with heads of Federal agencies the Director
7 considers appropriate, shall carry out measurement
8 research to support the development and improve-
9 ment of best practices and technical standards for
10 biosecurity measures related to nucleic acid syn-
11 thesis, including the following:

12 “(A) Testing to improve the accuracy, effi-
13 cacy, and reliability of screening for nucleic acid
14 synthesis.

15 “(B) Best practices, including security and
16 access controls, for operational security and
17 managing sequence-of-concern databases to
18 support such screening.

19 “(C) Technical implementation guidance to
20 ensure such screening is effective and secure.

21 “(D) Conformity-assessment best practices
22 and technical standards.

23 “(E) Methods to evaluate the impact and
24 effectiveness of the implementation of subpara-
25 graphs (A) through (D).

1 “(2) CONSORTIUM.—In carrying out this sub-
2 section, the Director shall convene a consortium of
3 stakeholders, including industry, institutions of high-
4 er education, nonprofit organizations, and customers
5 to carry out the following:

6 “(A) Develop and periodically update con-
7 sensus priorities and best practices, as appro-
8 priate, for synthetic nucleic acid procurement
9 screening mechanisms.

10 “(B) Develop roadmaps to inform the ac-
11 tivities carried out under paragraph (1).

12 “(3) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after
13 the first meeting of the consortium under paragraph
14 (2), the Director shall submit to the Committee on
15 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
16 ate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-
17 nology of the House of Representatives a report
18 summarizing the findings of the consortium.

19 “(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of
20 the funds authorized to be appropriated for the Na-
21 tional Institute of Standards and Technology pursu-
22 ant to this section for scientific and technical re-
23 search and services laboratory activities, there is au-
24 thorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each of

- 1 fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to carry out this
- 2 subsection.”.

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