

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7696

To establish a grant program to provide awards to National Laboratories and institutions of higher education to develop secure artificial intelligence (AI) cyber-physical testbeds to simulate grid-scale cyberattacks, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Mr. HERNANDEZ (for himself, Mr. LICCARDO, and Mrs. GRIJALVA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To establish a grant program to provide awards to National Laboratories and institutions of higher education to develop secure artificial intelligence (AI) cyber-physical testbeds to simulate grid-scale cyberattacks, 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 “AI Cyber Grid Protec-
5 tion Resilient Development Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM TO SECURE ARTIFICIAL INTEL-**
2 **LIGENCE (AI) CYBER-PHYSICAL TESTBEDS TO**
3 **SIMULATE GRID-SCALE CYBERATTACKS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cy-
6 bersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the De-
7 partment of Homeland Security and the Secretary of
8 Homeland Security shall jointly establish a grant program
9 to provide awards for each of fiscal years 2026 through
10 2030 to eligible entities to develop secure artificial intel-
11 ligence (AI) cyber-physical testbeds to simulate grid-scale
12 cyberattacks and train AI models safely.

13 (b) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date
14 of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter
15 through 2031, the Director of the Cybersecurity and In-
16 frastructure Security Agency of the Department of Home-
17 land Security and the Secretary of Homeland Security
18 shall jointly submit to Congress a report detailing evolving
19 threats, AI mitigation progress, and recommendations for
20 further legislative or regulatory action relating to grid-
21 scale cyberattacks.

22 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
23 authorized to be appropriated \$100,000,000 for fiscal
24 years 2026 through 2030 to make grants under subsection
25 (a).

26 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) AI; ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.—The terms
2 “AI” and “artificial intelligence” have the meaning
3 given the term “artificial intelligence” in section
4 238(g) of the John S. McCain National Defense Au-
5 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law
6 115–232).

7 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
8 ty” means any of the following:

9 (A) An institution of higher education (as
10 such term is defined in section 101(a) of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
12 1001(a))), including any of the following:

13 (i) A public college or university.

14 (ii) A community college.

15 (iii) A Hispanic-serving institution (as
16 such term is defined in section 502 of the
17 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
18 1101a)).

19 (B) A National Laboratory (as such term
20 is defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act
21 of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801)).

22 (C) A consortium comprised of one or
23 more entities specified in subparagraphs (A)
24 and (B).

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