

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8268

To support biotechnology education for secondary school students, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 14, 2026

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

A BILL

To support biotechnology education for secondary school students, 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 “Biotechnology for All
5 High School Students Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOL**
7 **STUDENTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title III of the Re-
9 search and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act
10 (enacted as division B of Public Law 117–167; popularly

1 referred to as the “CHIPS and Science Act”) is amended
2 by inserting after section 10311 (42 U.S.C. 18991) the
3 following new section:

4 **“SEC. 10311A. BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR ALL SECONDARY**
5 **SCHOOL STUDENTS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in consultation
7 with the Secretary of Education and the Consortium es-
8 tablished pursuant to subsection (f), may make awards on
9 a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to eligible entities to
10 support the implementation of new and expansion of exist-
11 ing biotechnology education for secondary school students,
12 including such education in informal learning environ-
13 ments.

14 “(b) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible entity that seeks an
15 award under subsection (a) shall submit to the Director
16 an application at such time, in such manner, and con-
17 taining such information as the Director may require.

18 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—An award under subsection
19 (a) may be utilized for any of the following purposes:

20 “(1) Professional development and training in
21 biotechnology education for teachers of secondary
22 school students, including with respect to the fol-
23 lowing:

24 “(A) Education instruction in a laboratory
25 setting.

1 “(B) Curriculum design.

2 “(C) Pedagogy.

3 “(2) Development and distribution of curricula
4 and instructional materials related to biotechnology
5 education.

6 “(3) Acquisition of laboratory and instructional
7 equipment for biotechnology education.

8 “(4) Establishment of partnerships between in-
9 stitutions of higher education, private sector entities,
10 and eligible nonprofit organizations to facilitate bio-
11 technology education.

12 “(5) Development of transferrable and
13 stackable biotechnology credentials for such stu-
14 dents.

15 “(6) Any other purpose the Director determines
16 appropriate.

17 “(d) PRIORITY.—The Director may prioritize awards
18 under subsection (a) to eligible entities that demonstrate
19 a need for, or limited access to, educational resources re-
20 lating to biotechnology education.

21 “(e) OTHER ACTIVITIES.—The Director, in consulta-
22 tion with the Secretary of Education and the Consortium
23 established pursuant to subsection (f), may carry out the
24 following:

1 “(1) Support coordination between Federal,
2 State, and local efforts regarding the implementation
3 of new and expansion of existing biotechnology edu-
4 cation programs for secondary school students.

5 “(2) Promote collaboration between public sec-
6 tor entities and private sector entities regarding
7 such implementation and expansion.

8 “(3) Identify and share best practices regarding
9 such implementation and expansion.

10 “(4) Support professional development and
11 training referred to in subsection (c)(1) by means
12 other than an award under subsection (a).

13 “(5) Facilitate access to curricula, resources,
14 and digital learning tools with respect to such pro-
15 grams.

16 “(f) NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CON-
17 SORTIUM.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this section, the
20 Director, in consultation with the Secretary of Edu-
21 cation, shall establish a consortium, to be known as
22 the ‘National Biotechnology Education Consortium’
23 (in this section referred to as the ‘Consortium’), to
24 provide support and recommendations to the Direc-

1 tor with respect to biotechnology education programs
2 for secondary school students.

3 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Consortium shall be
4 composed of not fewer than six members. The Direc-
5 tor shall seek to appoint members of the Consortium
6 from the following:

7 “(A) Relevant Federal departments or
8 agencies.

9 “(B) Eligible entities.

10 “(C) Stakeholders in biotechnology.

11 “(3) SUNSET.—The Consortium shall terminate
12 on the date that is five years after the date on which
13 the Consortium is established under paragraph (1).

14 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
16 tity’ means any of the following entities:

17 “(A) A State educational agency (as such
18 term is defined in section 4 of the National
19 Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002
20 (42 U.S.C. 1862n note)).

21 “(B) A local educational agency (as such
22 term is defined in such section).

23 “(C) An institution of higher education.

24 “(D) An eligible nonprofit organization (as
25 such term is defined in such section).

1 “(E) A consortium of any of the entities
2 described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

3 “(2) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term ‘sec-
4 ondary school’ has the meaning given such term in
5 section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
6 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).”.

7 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—Public Law 117–167
8 is amended in the table of contents in sections 1 and
9 10000 by inserting after the items relating to section
10 10311 the following new items:

 “Sec. 10311A. Biotechnology for all secondary school students.”.

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