

DOE AND SBA RESEARCH ACT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, from the Committee on Small Business,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 4669]

The Committee on Small Business, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 4669) to provide for Department of Energy, National Laboratories, and Small Business Administration joint research and development activities, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

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I. PURPOSE AND BILL SUMMARY

H.R. 4669 was introduced by Rep. LaLota (R-NY) and Rep. Thanedar (D-MI) on July 17, 2023. The purpose of H.R. 4669, the “DOE and SBA Research Act”, is to require the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Small Business Administration (SBA) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or other agreement

to conduct cross cutting research and execute joint mission requirements while increasing small business opportunities.

This bill allows for SBA and the Department of Energy's National Laboratories to enter into a MOU or other agreement to carry out research and development in support of the missions of the National Labs and SBA.

II. NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The DOE has 17 National Labs located across the country. They address large scale, complex research and development challenges with a multidisciplinary approach that places an emphasis on translating basic science to innovation.

Small businesses bring unique and invaluable experience to research and development. National Laboratories view small businesses as vital to their mission. Federal procurement law and small business contracting goals encourage National Laboratories, through the national lab network, to utilize small businesses as suppliers.

While DOE includes small businesses in executing its mission, such as through procurement activities, this bill would provide greater collaboration in order to increase small business utilization. It is anticipated that the MOU activities could include existing resources such as the Small Business Innovation Research program and SBA's Resource Partner Network comprising of Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, SCORE Chapters, and Veteran Business Outreach Centers.

III. HEARINGS

In the 118th Congress, the Committee held no hearings examining the issues covered in H.R. 4669.

IV. COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee on Small Business met in open session, with a quorum being present, on July 18, 2023 and ordered H.R. 4669 reported favorably to the House of Representatives. During the markup no amendments were offered.

V. COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires the Committee to list the recorded votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto. The Committee voted to favorably report H.R. 4669 to the House of Representatives at 12:03 PM.

118th Congress House Committee on Small Business Vote Record

Date:

Bill: HR 4669

Convened:

Adjourned:

Republicans	Aye	Nay	Present
Mr. Luetkemeyer (MO-03)	✓		
Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	✓		
Mr. Meuser (PA-09)	✓		
Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	✓		
Ms. Salazar (FL-27)	✓		
Mr. Mann (KS-01)	✓		
Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	✓		
Mr. Molinaro (NY-19)	✓		
Mr. Alford (MO-04)	✓		
Mr. Crane (AZ-02)	✓		
Mr. Bean (FL-04)	✓		
Mr. Hunt (TX-38)	✓		
Mr. (La-Low-ta) Lalota (NY-01)	✓		
Chairman Williams (TX-25)	✓		
TOTALS:			

Mr. Chairman _____ Votes _____

Mr. Chairman _____ Off _____, Votes _____

Mr. Chairman on that vote 26 Ayes 0 Nays and 0 Present

118th Congress House Committee on Small Business Vote Record

Date:

Bill:

Democrats	Aye	Nay	Present
Mr. Golden (ME-02)	✓		
Mr. M-fume (MD-07)	✓		
Mr. Phillips (MN-03)	✓		
Mr. Landsman (OH-01)	✓		
Mr. Mc-Gar-vey (KY-03)	✓		
Ms. Glue-sen-kamp Perez (WA-03)	✓		
Ms. (Skull- ton) Scholten (MI-03)	✓		
Mr. (Tan-a-dar) Thanedar (MI-13)	✓		
Ms. (Chew) Chu (CA-28)	✓		
Ms. Davids (KS-03)	✓		
Mr. Pappas (NH-01)	✓		
Ranking Member Nydia Velazquez (NY-07)	✓		
TOTALS:			

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VI. SECTION-BY-SECTION OF H.R. 4669

Section 1. Short title

This act can be cited as the DOE and SBA Research Act.

Section 2. Department of Energy and Small Business Administration joint research and development activities

This section requires SBA, DOE, and the appropriate head of a National Laboratory to enter into a MOU or other agreement to carry out research activities focused on the joint advancement of DOE and SBA mission requirements and priorities. Officials can enter into one or more MOUs or agreements to carry out these activities, as jointly determined. Small business concerns shall be included in carrying out these activities, as appropriate.

The agencies may carry out reimbursable agreements between the agencies and entities entered into an MOU or other agreement and collaborate with other federal agencies. No later than two years after enactment, the agencies shall submit a report on the activities of MOU(s) or agreement(s) including coordination between those involved, potential opportunities to expand technical capabilities of the agencies, collaborative research achievements, areas of future mutually beneficial successes, and continuation of coordinative activities between the agencies. MOUs or agreements shall be applied consistent with subtitle D of title VI of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act.

Section 3. Compliance with CUTGO

This section does not authorize any additional appropriations for this bill.

VII. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of House rule XIII, the Committee adopts as its own the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. The Committee has requested but not received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office a cost estimate for the Committee's provisions. Once available, the cost estimate will be published in the Congressional Record.

VIII. NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(I) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following opinion and estimate with respect to new budget authority, entitlement authority, and tax expenditures. While the Committee has not received an estimate of new budget authority contained in the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to Sec. 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee does not believe that there will be any additional costs attributable to this legislation. H.R. 4669 does not direct new spending, but instead reallocates funding independently authorized and appropriated.

IX. OVERSIGHT FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the oversight findings and recommendations of the Committee on Small Business with respect to the subject matter contained in the H.R. 4669 are incorporated into the descriptive portions of this report.

X. PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the performance goals and objectives of H.R. 4669 are to require a report on the activities of MOU(s) or agreement(s) including coordination between those involved, potential opportunities to expand technical capabilities of the agencies, collaborative research achievements, areas of future mutually beneficial successes, and continuation of coordinative activities between the agencies.

XI. STATEMENT OF DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no provision of H.R. 4669 is known to be duplicative of another Federal program, including any program that was included in a report to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

XII. CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

With respect to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that the bill does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

XIII. FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

XIV. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

XV. APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

XVI. STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House, the Committee finds that the authority for this legislation in Art. I, § 8, cl.1 of the Constitution of the United States.

