

Public Law 94-86
94th Congress

An Act

Authorizing appropriations to the National Science Foundation for
fiscal year 1976.

Aug. 9, 1975

[H.R. 4723]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the National Science Foundation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, for the following categories:

National Science
Foundation
Authorization
Act, 1976.

- (1) Scientific Research Project Support, \$377,600,000.
- (2) National and Special Research Programs, \$109,800,000.
- (3) National Research Centers, \$60,200,000.
- (4) Research Applied to National Needs, \$70,500,000.
- (5) Science Education Innovation, \$39,800,000.
- (6) Science Education Support, \$35,300,000.
- (7) Graduate Student Support, \$16,400,000.
- (8) Science Information Activities, \$6,600,000.
- (9) International Cooperative Scientific Activities, \$8,000,000.
- (10) Intergovernmental Science and R. & D. Incentives Program, \$10,000,000.
- (11) Science Assessment, Policy, and Advisory Activities, \$11,100,000.
- (12) Program Development and Management, \$41,700,000.

SEC. 2. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act—

(1) of the total amount authorized under section 1, not less than \$39,800,000 shall be available for the purpose of "Science Education Innovation";

(2) of the total amount authorized under section 1, not less than \$35,300,000 shall be available for the purpose of "Science Education Support";

(3) of the total amount authorized under section 1, not less than \$16,400,000 shall be available for the purpose of "Graduate Student Support";

(4) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (6), not less than \$3,000,000 shall be available for "Undergraduate Research Participation";

(5) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (6), not less than \$2,500,000 shall be available for "Secondary School Student Science Projects";

(6) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (6), not less than \$2,000,000 shall be available for "Science Faculty Fellowships";

(7) of the total amount authorized under section 1, not less than \$6,600,000 shall be available for "Science Information Activities";

(8) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (4), not less than \$25,000,000 shall be available for environmental research, including \$5,500,000 for earthquake engineering;

(9) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (4), not less than \$23,000,000 shall be available for "Applied Social Research" and for "Policy-Sciences Research" directed toward increasing the cost-effectiveness of policies and programs dealing with urban and human service problems at the Federal,

State, and local government levels. Such funds shall not be available for use with respect to any program or activity if such use would result in a substantial duplication of any program or activity which is receiving other Federal financial assistance. Such funds may be used to identify, analyze, and contribute knowledge to improve productivity in the public sector; identify, analyze, and evaluate more effective, efficient, and equitable ways to deliver human services; and develop the data base and analytical techniques required for improving applied research on municipal systems and human service delivery;

(10) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (4), not less than \$1,000,000 shall be available for the purpose of "Fire Research." The transfer of this program to the Fire Research Center of the National Bureau of Standards (15 U.S.C. 278 f.) during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, is authorized;

(11) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (4), not less than 7.5 per centum of such amount shall be expended to small business concerns;

(12) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (6), not less than \$7,000,000 shall be available for "Ethnic Minorities and Women in Science Program"; and not less than \$1,500,000 thereof shall be available to develop and test methods of increasing the flow of women into careers in science;

(13) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (10), not less than \$8,000,000 shall be available for the "Intergovernmental Science Program";

(14) of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (11), not less than \$1,500,000 shall be available for programs related to the ethical and human value implications of science and technology; and

(15) the amount of \$5,500,000 for "Institutional Improvement for Science" which was authorized and appropriated to the National Science Foundation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, and which remains unobligated as of the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975, shall be merged with and added to the amount authorized under section 1, category (6) ("Science Education Support"), of this Act.

42 USC 1869a.

(b) After the date of enactment of this Act the Director of the National Science Foundation, shall require, as a condition of any award made by the National Science Foundation for the purpose of precollege science curriculum development activities, that the awardee, and any subcontractors involved in the distribution, marketing, or selling of such science curricula, shall include in any testing agreement, sales contract, or other comparable legal instrument a provision requiring that all instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary instructional materials developed or provided under such award, subcontract, or other legal instrument, will be made available within the school district using such materials for inspection by parents or guardians of children engaged in educational programs or projects of that school district. In addition, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall take such action as may be necessary and feasible to modify awards made for the purpose of precollege science curriculum development and implementation activities on or before the date of enactment of this Act to include such a provision in all possible cases.

(c) The National Science Foundation is authorized and directed to conduct a Research Initiation and Support program, referred to hereinafter as RIAS. RIAS shall have the purpose of strengthening programs of training and research for young scientists at the graduate and postgraduate levels at educational institutions. Awards under this program may include support for exploratory research by such young scientists, the acquisition of instruments, equipment, and facilities for research and training, and other programs and activities aimed at meeting departmental, interdepartmental, or institutionwide training and research needs, or a combination thereof. Awards under RIAS shall be made on a competitive basis and may cover periods not to exceed four years. Notwithstanding any provisions of this or any other Act, of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (6), not less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for RIAS.

Research
Initiation and
Support program.

(d) The National Science Foundation is authorized and directed to conduct a Comprehensive Assistance to Undergraduate Science Education program, referred to hereinafter as CAUSE. CAUSE shall have the purpose of strengthening the science education capabilities of predominantly undergraduate educational institutions and departments or groups of departments thereof through awards to four-year colleges, to two-year colleges, to the undergraduate component of advanced degree institutions, and to groups of such institutions. Notwithstanding any provisions of this or any other Act, of the total amount authorized under section 1, category (6), not less than \$15,000,000 shall be available for CAUSE and not less than \$3,500,000 thereof shall be awarded to two-year institutions. Awards within each category of CAUSE shall be made on a competitive basis.

Comprehensive
Assistance to
Undergraduate
Science
Education
program.

(e) As used in this Act, "Science Education Innovation" means projects aimed at the development of new approaches to the teaching of science to students, teachers, and professionals, including but not limited to new curricula, new technologies, new methods, and retraining or other efforts to make the existing scientific manpower pool better able to fulfill the Nation's manpower needs. As used in this Act, "Science Education Support" means projects aimed at building a capability to teach science, including but not limited to awards for equipment, conferences, and institutional development.

"Science
Education
Innovation."

SEC. 3. The Director of the National Science Foundation is authorized and directed to prepare a comprehensive plan for the establishment and conduct of a "Science for Citizens Program". Such program shall be designed—

Science for
Citizens Program.
Comprehensive
plan.
42 USC 1864
note.

(1) to improve public understanding of public policy issues involving science and technology;

(2) to facilitate the participation of experienced scientists and engineers as well as graduate and undergraduate students in public activities, including community and citizen group activities, aimed at the resolution of public policy issues having significant scientific and technical aspects;

(3) to enable nonprofit citizens public interest groups to acquire necessary technical expertise to assist them in dealing with the scientific and technical aspects of public policy issues; and

(4) to provide grants and contracts to academic and other nonprofit organizations for the conduct of applied research designed to improve the effectiveness of the programs conducted under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of this section.

Submittal to
congressional
committees.

Comprehensive
plan, submittal to
congressional
committees.
42 USC 1864
note.

42 USC 5820
note.

Alan T.
Waterman
Award.
Establishment.
42 USC 1881a.

Appropriation
authorization.

Funds transfer,
limitation.

Report to
Speaker of the
House, President
of the Senate and
congressional
committees.

The comprehensive plan provided for in this section shall be submitted to the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate within six months from the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. The Director of the National Science Foundation is authorized and directed to prepare a comprehensive plan to facilitate the participation of members of the public in the formulation, development, and conduct of the National Science Foundation's programs, policies, and priorities and to submit the resulting recommendations, plans, and other findings to the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate within one hundred and twenty days from the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. In the conduct of the energy research and development activities under the "Research Applied to National Needs" category, the National Science Foundation shall coordinate all new project awards with the Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration or his designee.

SEC. 6. (a) The National Science Foundation is authorized to establish the Alan T. Waterman Award for research or advanced study in the mathematical, physical, medical, biological, engineering, social, or other sciences. The award authorized by this section shall consist of a suitable medal and a grant not to exceed \$50,000 per year for a period not to exceed three years to support further research or study by the recipient.

(b) Awards under this section shall be made to recognize and encourage the work of younger scientists whose capabilities and accomplishments show exceptional promise of significant future achievement.

(c) No more than one award shall be made under this section in any one fiscal year.

SEC. 7. Appropriations made pursuant to this Act may be used, but not to exceed \$5,000, for official consultation, representation, or other extraordinary expenses upon the approval or authority of the Director of the National Science Foundation, and his determination shall be final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the Government.

SEC. 8. In addition to such sums as are authorized by section 1, not to exceed \$4,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976, for expenses of the National Science Foundation incurred outside the United States to be paid for in foreign currencies which the Treasury Department determines to be excess to the normal requirements of the United States.

SEC. 9. Appropriations made pursuant to authority provided in sections 1 and 8 shall remain available for obligation, for expenditure, or for obligation and expenditure, for such period or periods as may be specified in the Acts making such appropriations.

SEC. 10. No funds may be transferred from any particular category listed in section 1 to any other category or categories listed in such section if the total of the funds so transferred from that particular category would exceed 10 per centum thereof, and no funds may be transferred to any particular category listed in section 1 from any other category or categories listed in such section if the total of the funds so transferred to that particular category would exceed 10 per centum thereof, unless—

(A) a period of thirty legislative days has passed after the Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee has

transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the President of the Senate and to the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate a written report containing a full and complete statement concerning the nature of the transfer and the reason therefor, or

(B) each such committee before the expiration of such period has transmitted to the Director written notice to the effect that such committee has no objection to the proposed action.

SEC. 11. Notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall keep the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare of the Senate fully and currently informed with respect to all of the activities of the National Science Foundation.

SEC. 12. This Act may be cited as the "National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1976".

Approved August 9, 1975.

42 USC 1882.

Short title.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: Nos. 94-66 and 94-99 (Comm. on Science and Technology) and No. 94-422 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 94-112 accompanying S. 1539 (Comm. on Labor and Public Welfare) and No. 94-339 (Comm. of Conference).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 121 (1975):

Apr. 9, considered and passed House.

May 13, considered and passed Senate, amended, in lieu of S. 1539.

June 17, considered in House.

July 30, Senate agreed to conference report.

Aug. 1, House agreed to conference report.