

Public Law 96-516  
96th Congress

An Act

To authorize appropriations for activities for the National Science Foundation for the fiscal year 1981, and to promote the full use of human resources in science and technology through a comprehensive and continuing program to increase substantially the contribution and advancement of women and minorities in scientific, professional, and technical careers, and for other purposes.

Dec. 12, 1980

[S. 568]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That this Act may be cited as the "National Science Foundation Authorization and Science and Technology Equal Opportunities Act".

National Science  
Foundation  
Authorization  
and Science and  
Technology  
Equal  
Opportunities  
Act.  
42 USC 1861  
note.

PART A—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Science Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the "Foundation") for the fiscal year 1981, the sums indicated for the following categories:

- (1) Mathematical and Physical Sciences, \$259,800,000.
- (2) Astronomical, Atmospheric, Earth and Ocean Sciences, \$237,100,000.
- (3) United States Antarctic Program, \$64,200,000.
- (4) Ocean Drilling Programs, \$22,000,000.
- (5) Biological, Behavioral, and Social Sciences, \$182,000,000.
- (6) Science Education Programs, \$91,200,000.
- (7)(A) Engineering, \$62,615,000.
- (B) Applied Sciences, \$74,385,000 of which not less than 12.5 per centum shall be expended to small business concerns.
- (8) Scientific, Technological, and International Affairs, \$28,000,000.
- (9) Cross-Directorate Programs, \$33,200,000.
- (10) Program Development and Management, \$60,000,000.

AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 12. Appropriations made under authority provided in sections 11 and 15 shall remain available for obligation, for expenditure, or for obligation and expenditure for periods specified in the Acts making the appropriations.

SPECIAL EMPHASIS PROGRAMS

SEC. 13. (a) Of the total amount authorized under section 11(6)—

- (1) not less than \$1,500,000 shall be available for science education programs relating to Appropriate Technology;
- (2) not less than \$2,400,000 shall be available for Science Faculty Improvement Programs, for year-long awards to experienced, full-time, two- and four-year college and university science teachers who are involved primarily in undergraduate science instruction to increase their competence in science;

(3) not less than \$2,250,000 shall be available for the program Ethics and Values in Science and Technology; and

(4) not less than \$500,000 shall be available for the program Handicapped in Science.

(b) Of the total amount authorized under sections 11(1), 11(2), 11(5), 11(7)(A), and 11(7)(B) for equipment and instrumentation, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be made available for grants to two- and four-year colleges for equipment and instrumentation costing \$35,000, or less.

(c) Of the total amount authorized under sections 11(1), 11(2), 11(5), and 11(7), not less than \$2,000,000 shall be available for the salaries of faculty members of two-year and four-year colleges that have only small or no doctoral programs in science and engineering or of universities that have very limited science and engineering programs, for the purpose of enabling them to participate in research projects at institutions other than the faculty members' home institutions.

(d) Of the total amount authorized under section 11(7)—

(1) not less than \$19,400,000 shall be available for Earthquake Hazards Mitigation;

(2) not less than \$1,000,000 shall be available for the Small Business Innovation Program, for projects to aid the handicapped;

(3) not less than \$3,000,000 shall be available for Research and Development in Appropriate Technology;

(4) not less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for a Center for Innovation Development to be located in an area which experienced an unemployment rate in excess of 10 per centum in 1979, and which is centrally located to serve several major metropolitan centers; and

(5) not less than \$1,800,000 shall be available for the establishment and operation of three university-based Innovation Centers.

(e) Of the total amount authorized under section 11(8), \$14,500,000 is authorized for International Cooperative Science Activities.

(f) Of the total amount authorized under section 11(9), not more than \$1,600,000 is authorized for United States/Union Soviet Socialist Republics cooperative research, no portion of which shall be expended until the President has certified in writing to the Congress that such expenditures shall be of direct and very substantial benefit to the United States of America.

#### OCEAN MARGIN DRILLING PROJECT REPORT

Report to  
Congress.

SEC. 14. (a) The Foundation shall prepare a report on the Ocean Margin Drilling Project and shall transmit the report to Congress not later than December 31, 1980. The report shall include—

(1) plans for conversion of the Glomar Explorer or other drilling platform;

(2) plans for drilling;

(3) detailed cost estimates;

(4) a discussion of the feasibility and cost of alternative drilling platforms;

(5) plans for funding; and

(6) other plans.

Study, report to  
Congress.

(b) The National Academy of Sciences shall study marine earth sciences research and report to the Congress.

(c) To the extent permitted by law, all Federal funding of the Ocean Margin Drilling Project shall be provided from the Windfall Profit Tax Account.

#### OFFICIAL EXPENSES

SEC. 15. From appropriations made under this Act, not more than \$5,000 for fiscal year 1981 may be used for official consultation, representation, or other extraordinary expenses at the discretion of the Director of the National Science Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the "Director"). His determination will be final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the Government.

#### FOREIGN CURRENCY

SEC. 16. Besides the sums authorized by section 11, not more than \$5,500,000 for fiscal year 1981 are authorized to be appropriated for expenses of the National Science Foundation incurred outside the United States, to be drawn from foreign currencies that the Treasury Department determines to be excess to the normal requirements of the United States.

#### TRANSFER AUTHORITY

SEC. 17. (a) Funds may be transferred among the categories listed in section 11, so long as the net funds transferred to or from any category do not exceed 10 per centum of the amount authorized for that category in section 11.

Transfer of funds.

(b) The Director of the Foundation may propose transfers to or from any category exceeding 10 per centum of the amounts authorized for that category in section 11 or available for that category after the application of section 19. Such a proposed transfer must be explained and transmitted in writing to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the House Committee on Science and Technology. The proposed transfer may be made only when—

Proposed transfer, submittal to congressional committees.

(1) thirty calendar days have passed after submission of the written proposal, or

(2) the chairman of the House Committee on Science and Technology and the chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources have each written the Director to the effect that the respective committee has no objection to the proposed transfer.

#### DIRECTORATE CONSOLIDATION

SEC. 18. The National Science Foundation is directed to consolidate all Directorates, including the Science Education Directorate, under one roof, in the present location of the central administrative offices, on or before August 1, 1982.

42 USC 1866 note.

#### RATABLE REDUCTION

SEC. 19. If the total amount of appropriations made by any Act for program activities included in section 11 and section 13 for the fiscal year 1981 is less than the total amount authorized to be appropriated for those activities by section 11 and section 13, the amount available from such appropriations for any particular program activity shall bear the same ratio to the amount authorized to be appropriated for that activity by section 11 and section 13 as the total amount of the appropriations made by such appropriation Act for all included

program activities bears to the total amount authorized to be appropriated for those activities by section 11 and section 13 (with each ceiling and floor set forth in section 11 and section 13 being reduced in the same ratio for purposes of determining the amounts so available), except to the extent specifically otherwise provided in the text of the Act making the appropriations for the program activities involved.

#### GRANT TITLES

42 USC 1864  
note.

SEC. 20. The Director of the National Science Foundation shall require the titles of all its grants to contain a brief statement of the purpose of the research being undertaken. Insofar as possible such statements shall be in layman's language.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION ACT OF 1950

42 USC 1863.

SEC. 21. (a) Section 4(c) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following new sentence: "In making nominations under this section, the President shall give due regard to equitable representation of scientists who are women or who represent minority groups."

Repeal.  
42 USC 1874.

(b)(1) Section 15(c) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 is repealed.

(2) Subsection (d) of section 15 of such Act is redesignated as subsection (c).

42 USC 1875.

(c) Section 16 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 is amended to read as follows:

#### "APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 16. To enable the Foundation to carry out its powers and duties, only such sums may be appropriated as the Congress may authorize by law."

#### AMENDMENTS TO AWARDS

42 USC 1881.

SEC. 22. (a)(1) Section 2(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Medal of Science to provide recognition for individuals who make outstanding contributions in the physical, biological, mathematical, and engineering sciences" approved August 25, 1959, is amended by striking "or engineering" and inserting in lieu thereof "engineering, behavioral or social".

(2) The title of such Act is amended by striking out "and engineering" and inserting in lieu thereof "engineering, behavioral, and social".

42 USC 1881a.

(b) Section 6(a) of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1976 is amended by inserting after "engineering" a comma and the following: "behavioral, social".

Science and  
Technology  
Equal  
Opportunities  
Act.  
42 USC 1861  
note.

#### PART B—WOMEN, MINORITIES, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

##### SHORT TITLE

SEC. 31. This part may be cited as the "Science and Technology Equal Opportunities Act".

##### FINDINGS AND POLICY

42 USC 1885.

SEC. 32. (a) The Congress finds that it is in the national interest to promote the full use of human resources in science and technology



and to insure the full development and use of the scientific talent and technical skills of men and women, equally, of all ethnic, racial, and economic backgrounds.

(b) The Congress declares it is the policy of the United States to encourage men and women, equally, of all ethnic, racial, and economic backgrounds to acquire skills in science and mathematics, to have equal opportunity in education, training, and employment in scientific and technical fields, and thereby to promote scientific literacy and the full use of the human resources of the Nation in science and technology. To this end, the Congress declares that the highest quality science over the long-term requires substantial support, from currently available research and educational funds, for increased participation in science and technology by women and minorities. The Congress further declares that the impact on women and minorities which is produced by advances in science and technology must be included as essential factors in national and international science, technology, and economic policies.

#### WOMEN IN SCIENCE

SEC. 33. The Foundation is authorized to—

42 USC 1885a.

(1) support activities designed to—

(A) increase the participation of women in courses of study at the undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate levels leading to degrees in scientific and technical fields;

(B) encourage women to consider and prepare for careers in science and technology; or

(C) provide traineeship and fellowship opportunities for women in science and technology;

(2) support programs in science and mathematics in elementary and secondary schools so as to stimulate the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and information by female students and to increase female student awareness of career opportunities requiring scientific and technical skills;

(3) support activities in continuing education in science and engineering which provide opportunities for women who—

(A) are in the work force, or

(B) who are not in the work force because their careers have been interrupted, to acquire new knowledge, techniques, and skills in scientific and technical fields;

(4) undertake a comprehensive research program designed to increase public understanding of (A) the potential contribution of women in science and technology and (B) the means to facilitate the participation and advancement of women in scientific and technical careers;

(5) establish a visiting women scientists program;

(6) support activities designed to improve the availability and quality of public information concerning the importance of the participation of women in careers in science and technology;

(7) support activities of museums and science centers which demonstrate potential to interest and involve women in science and technology;

(8) make grants, to be known as the National Research Opportunity Grants, to women scientists who (A) have received their doctorates within five years prior to the date of the award or (B) have received their doctorates, have had their careers inter-

National  
Research  
Opportunity  
Grants.

rupted, and are re-entering the work force within five years after such interruption;

(9) make grants to women eligible under paragraph (8) to assist such women in planning and developing a research project eligible for support under such paragraph;

(10) provide support to individuals or academic institutions for full-time or part-time visiting professorships for women in science; and

(11) support demonstration project activities of individuals, public agencies, and private entities designed to encourage the employment and advancement of women in science, engineering, and technology.

#### MINORITIES IN SCIENCE

Science  
education  
program.  
42 USC 1885b.  
Report to  
congressional  
committee.

SEC. 34. (a) The Foundation is authorized (1) to undertake or support a comprehensive science education program to increase the participation of minorities in science and technology, and (2) to support activities to initiate research at minority institutions.

(b) By September 30, 1981, the Director, with the advice and assistance of the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Technology established in section 36, shall prepare and transmit to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives a report proposing a comprehensive and continuing program at the Foundation to promote the full participation of minorities in science and technology. Such report shall contain budgetary and legislative recommendations for the carrying out of such program by the Foundation.

#### NATIONAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Report to  
Congress.  
42 USC 1885  
note.

SEC. 35. (a) By January 20, 1982, the President, with the assistance of the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Director of the Foundation, shall prepare and transmit a report to the Congress proposing a comprehensive national policy and program, including budgetary and legislative recommendations, for the promotion of equal opportunity for women and minorities in science and technology.

Report to  
Congress.

(b) On or before January 1, 1983, the President, with the assistance of the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the heads of appropriate executive departments, and the Director of the Foundation shall prepare and transmit a report to the Congress proposing a comprehensive policy, including budgetary and legislative recommendations, concerning the direct and indirect impacts of science and technology on women and minorities.

#### COMMITTEE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Establishment.  
42 USC 1885c.

SEC. 36. (a) There is established within the Foundation a Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee"). The Committee shall provide advice to the Foundation concerning (1) the implementation of the provisions of this Act and (2) other policies and activities of the Foundation to encourage full participation of women, minorities, and other groups currently underrepresented in scientific engineering, professional, and technical fields.

(b) Each member of the Committee shall be appointed by the Director with the concurrence of the National Science Board. The Chairperson of the National Science Board Committee on Minorities

and Women shall be an ex officio member of the Committee. Members of the Committee shall be appointed to serve for a three-year term, and may be reappointed to serve one additional term of three years.

Term.

(c) There shall be a subcommittee of the Committee which shall be known as the Subcommittee on Women in Science and Technology. The Subcommittee on Women in Science and Technology shall have responsibility for all Committee matters relating to (1) the participation in and opportunities for the education, training, and research of women in science and technology and (2) the impact of science and technology on women. The Subcommittee shall be composed of all the women members of the Committee and such other members of the Committee as the Committee may designate.

Subcommittee on Women in Science and Technology.

(d) There shall be a subcommittee of the Committee which shall be known as the Subcommittee on Minorities in Science and Technology. The Subcommittee on Minorities in Science and Technology shall have responsibility for all Committee matters relating to (1) the participation in and opportunities for education, training, and research for minorities in science and technology and (2) the impact of science and technology on minorities. The Subcommittee shall be composed of all minority members of the Committee and such other members of the Committee as the Committee may designate.

Subcommittee on Minorities in Science and Technology.

(e) The Committee may organize such additional standing or ad hoc subcommittees as the Committee finds appropriate.

(f) Each year the Committee shall prepare and transmit to the Director a report concerning its activities during the previous year and its proposed activities for the next year. The Director shall transmit to Congress the report, unaltered, along with comments.

Report to Director and Congress.

#### BIENNIAL REPORT

SEC. 37. (a) By January 30, 1982, and biennially thereafter, the Director shall simultaneously transmit a report to the Congress, the Attorney General, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Education, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Report to Congress and certain Federal agencies.  
42 USC 1885d.

(b) The report required by subsection (a) shall contain—

Contents.

(1) an accounting and comparison, by sex, race, and ethnic group and by discipline, of the participation of women and men in scientific and technical positions, including—

(A) the number of individuals in permanent and temporary and in full-time and part-time scientific and technical positions by appropriate level or similar category;

(B) the average salary of individuals in such scientific and technical positions;

(C) the number and type of promotional opportunities realized by individuals in such scientific and technical positions;

(D) the number of individuals serving as principal investigators in federally conducted or federally supported research and development; and

(E) the unemployment rate of individuals seeking scientific and technical positions;

(2) an assessment, including quantitative and other data, of the proportion of women and minorities studying scientific and

technical fields, including mathematics and computer skills, at all educational levels; and

(3) such other data, analyses, and evaluations as the Director, acting on the advice of the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Technology, determines appropriate to carry out the Foundation's functions as well as the policies and programs of this Act.

#### SEVERABILITY

42 USC 1885  
note.

SEC. 38. If a provision of this Act is held invalid, the validity of the other provisions of the Act shall not be affected. If an application of a provision of this Act to a person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the application of the provisions to another person or circumstance shall not be affected.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 39. Of the sums appropriated for the National Science Foundation pursuant to section 11, not less than \$30,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 1981 to carry out the provisions of this part.

Approved December 12, 1980.

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 96-999 accompanying H.R. 7115 (Comm. on Science and Technology) and No. 96-1474 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 96-713 (Comm. on Labor and Human Resources) and No. 96-1028 (Comm. of Conference).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):

June 16, H.R. 7115 considered in House.

June 23, S. 568 considered and passed Senate.

Sept. 4, H.R. 7115 considered and passed House; passage vacated and S. 568, amended, passed in lieu.

Nov. 21, Senate agreed to conference report.

Dec. 2, House agreed to conference report.