

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1645

To establish a research, development, and demonstration program in genetics, protein science, and computational biology of microbes and plants to support the energy and environmental mission of the Department of Energy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 7, 2003

Mr. BOEHLERT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Science

A BILL

To establish a research, development, and demonstration program in genetics, protein science, and computational biology of microbes and plants to support the energy and environmental mission of the Department of Energy.

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. GENOMES TO LIFE.**

4 (a) PROGRAM.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-
6 tablish a research, development and demonstration
7 program in genetics, protein science, and computa-
8 tional biology of microbes and plants to support the

1 energy and environmental mission of the Depart-
2 ment.

3 (2) GRANTS.—The program shall support indi-
4 vidual investigators and multidisciplinary teams of
5 investigators through competitive, merit-reviewed
6 grants.

7 (3) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the pro-
8 gram, the Secretary shall consult with other Federal
9 agencies that conduct genetic and protein research.

10 (b) GOALS.—The program shall have the goal of de-
11 veloping technologies and methods based on the biological
12 functions of microbes and plants that—

13 (1) can facilitate the production of fuels, includ-
14 ing hydrogen;

15 (2) convert carbon dioxide to organic carbon;
16 and

17 (3) detoxify soils and water at Department fa-
18 cilities contaminated with heavy metals and radio-
19 logical materials.

20 (c) PLAN.—

21 (1) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—Within one year
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
23 retary shall prepare and transmit to the Congress a
24 research plan describing how the program author-
25 ized pursuant to this section will be undertaken to

1 accomplish the program goals established in section
2 (b).

3 (2) REVIEW OF PLAN.—The Secretary shall
4 contract with the National Academy of Sciences to
5 review the research plan developed under this sub-
6 section. The Secretary shall transmit the review to
7 the Congress not later than 6 months after trans-
8 mittal of the research plan under paragraph (1),
9 along with the Secretary's response to the rec-
10 ommendations contained in the review.

11 (d) FACILITIES.—In carrying out the program under
12 this section, the Secretary may construct, acquire and op-
13 erate facilities necessary to carry out this section.

14 (e) NO BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH.—In carrying out
15 this program, the Secretary shall not conduct biomedical
16 research.

17 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

18 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
19 retary of Energy such sums as may be necessary for each
20 of the fiscal years 2004 through 2007 to carry out this
21 Act.

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