

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4596

To make funds available to the Department of Energy National Laboratories for the Federal share of cooperative research and development agreements that support maturing Laboratory technology and transferring it to the private sector, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico (for himself and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To make funds available to the Department of Energy National Laboratories for the Federal share of cooperative research and development agreements that support maturing Laboratory technology and transferring it to the private sector, 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 “Cooperative Research
5 and Development Fund Authorization Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**
2 **FUND.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall
4 make funds available to Department of Energy National
5 Laboratories for the Federal share of cooperative research
6 and development agreements that support maturing lab-
7 oratory technology and transferring it to the private sec-
8 tor.

9 (b) APPORTIONMENT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy
11 shall determine the apportionment of such funds to
12 each Department of Energy National Laboratory
13 and shall ensure that special consideration is given
14 to small business firms and consortia involving small
15 business firms in the selection process for which co-
16 operative research and development agreements will
17 receive such funds.

18 (2) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term
19 “small business firm” has the meaning given such
20 term in section 4 of the Stevenson-Wydler Tech-
21 nology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703).

22 (c) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION METRICS.—The
23 Secretary of Energy shall ensure that the performance
24 evaluation metrics of each National Laboratory operating
25 contractor provide incentives for, and measure the effec-
26 tiveness of, the contractor’s cooperative research and de-

1 velopment agreement program at maturing laboratory
2 technology and transferring it to the private sector.

3 (d) REPORTING.—

4 (1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Energy
5 shall annually transmit to Congress a report that de-
6 scribes how funds were expended under this section,
7 including a description of—

8 (A) the types and sizes of non-Federal en-
9 tities that participated in cooperative research
10 and development agreements receiving funds
11 under this section; and

12 (B) the economic benefits resulting from
13 cooperative research and development agree-
14 ments that received funds under this section in
15 previous years.

16 (2) CONSOLIDATION OF REPORTS.—Reports re-
17 quired under this subsection may be consolidated
18 with other related reports required from the Sec-
19 retary.

20 (e) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section
21 shall be construed to preclude or limit the use of funding
22 provided under other authority of law for entering into or
23 increasing the Federal share of cooperative research and
24 development agreements, either in combination with fund-
25 ing provided under this section or separately.

1 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of En-
3 ergy to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for each of the
4 fiscal years 2018 through 2022.

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