

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1629

To reauthorize the Department of Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25, 2017

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. COONS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. HIRONO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To reauthorize the Department of Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, 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 “DEPSCoR Reauthor-
5 ization Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**
2 **ESTABLISHED PROGRAM TO STIMULATE**
3 **COMPETITIVE RESEARCH.**

4 (a) MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM OBJECTIVES.—Sub-
5 section (b) of section 257 of the National Defense Author-
6 ization Act for Fiscal Year 1995 (Public Law 103–337;
7 10 U.S.C. 2358 note) is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
9 paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively;

10 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redes-
11 igned by paragraph (1), the following new para-
12 graph (1):

13 “(1) To increase the number of university re-
14 searchers in eligible States capable of performing
15 science and engineering research responsive to the
16 needs of the Department of Defense.”; and

17 (3) in paragraph (2), as redesignated by para-
18 graph (1), by inserting “relevant to the mission of
19 the Department of Defense and” after “that is”.

20 (b) MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—Sub-
21 section (c) of such section is amended—

22 (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
23 graph (4); and

24 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
25 lowing new paragraph (3):

1 “(3) To provide assistance to science and engi-
 2 neering researchers at institutions of higher edu-
 3 cation in eligible States through collaboration be-
 4 tween Department of Defense laboratories and such
 5 researchers.”.

6 (c) MODIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR
 7 STATE PARTICIPATION.—Subsection (d) of such section is
 8 amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “in areas
 10 relevant to the mission of the Department of De-
 11 fense” after “programs”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following new
 13 paragraph:

14 “(3) The Under Secretary shall not remove a des-
 15 ignation of a State under paragraph (2) because the State
 16 exceeds the funding levels specified under subparagraph
 17 (A) of such paragraph unless the State has exceeded such
 18 funding levels for at least two consecutive years.”.

19 (d) MODIFICATION OF NAME.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Such section is amended—

21 (A) in subsections (a) and (e) by striking
 22 “Experimental” each place it appears and in-
 23 serting “Established”; and

1 (B) in the section heading, by striking
 2 “**EXPERIMENTAL**” and inserting “**ESTAB-**
 3 **LISHED**”.

4 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—Such Act is
 5 amended, in the table of contents in section 2(b), by
 6 striking the item relating to section 257 and insert-
 7 ing the following new item:

“Sec. 257. Defense established program to stimulate competitive research.”.

8 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 307
 9 of the 1997 Emergency Supplemental Appropria-
 10 tions Act for Recovery from Natural Disasters, and
 11 for Overseas Peacekeeping Efforts, Including Those
 12 in Bosnia (Public Law 105–18) is amended by strik-
 13 ing “Experimental” and inserting “Established”.

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