

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7934

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish the Energy I-Corps program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 4, 2020

Mr. LIPINSKI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish the Energy
I-Corps program.

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 “Energy Innovation
5 Corps”.

6 **SEC. 2. ENERGY I-CORPS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy (herein-
8 after referred to as the “Secretary”), acting through the
9 Technology Transfer Coordinator established in section
10 1001(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C.
11 16391(a)), shall carry out a program to support commer-

1 cial application education, training, professional develop-
2 ment, and mentorship called the “Energy Innovation
3 Corps Program” (hereinafter in this section referred to
4 as “Energy I-Corps”).

5 (b) PURPOSE.—The purposes of Energy I-Corps shall
6 be to help participants described in subsection (c) develop
7 skills and to accelerate the commercial application of clean
8 energy technologies and other technologies related to the
9 mission of the Department of Energy.

10 (c) PARTICIPANTS.—The Secretary shall carry out
11 this program for participants consisting of—

- 12 (1) employees at the National Laboratories; and
13 (2) researchers, students, and clean energy en-
14 trepreneurs.

15 (d) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out Energy I-Corps,
16 the Secretary shall support—

- 17 (1) commercial application education, training,
18 and mentoring activities, including workshops, semi-
19 nars, and short courses;
20 (2) engagement with private sector entities to
21 identify future research and development activities;
22 and
23 (3) any other activities that the Secretary de-
24 termines to be relevant.

1 (e) STATE AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying
2 out Energy I-Corps, the Secretary may engage in partner-
3 ships with National Laboratories, State and local govern-
4 ments, economic development organizations, and nonprofit
5 organizations to broaden access to Energy I-Corps and
6 support relevant activities under this subsection.

7 (f) FEDERAL COORDINATION.—In carrying out En-
8 ergy I-Corps, the Secretary may coordinate with any other
9 Federal science agency program that carries out a similar
10 program to support entrepreneurial and commercial appli-
11 cation education, training, professional development, and
12 mentorship in order to share best practices.

13 (g) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall submit 3
14 years after the enactment of this Act and every 3 years
15 thereafter to the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-
16 nology of the House of Representatives and the Committee
17 on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate an evalua-
18 tion on the long-term effectiveness of the Energy I-Corps
19 program and the progress towards achieving the purposes
20 of the program in subsection (a).

21 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated to the Technology
23 Transfer Coordinator established in section 1001(a) of the
24 Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16391(a)) to carry
25 out the activities authorized in subsection (a)—

1 (1) for participants under subsection (c)(1)
2 \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through
3 2025; and

4 (2) for participants under subsection (c)(2)
5 \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through
6 2025.

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