

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of section 3 of Pub. L. 116-115. Subsec. (d) of section 3 of Pub. L. 116-115 amended section 1862n-1 of this title. Subsec. (e) of section 3 of Pub. L. 116-115 amended section 1862n-1a of this title. Subsecs. (f) and (g) of section 3 of Pub. L. 116-115 amended section 7404 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

Section was enacted as part of the Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 117-167 substituted “biennial” for “annual”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DEFINITIONS

Pub. L. 116-115, §2, Feb. 11, 2020, 134 Stat. 106, provided that: “In this Act [see Short Title of 2020 Amendment note set out under section 1861 of this title]:

“(1) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

“(2) FOUNDATION.—The term ‘Foundation’ means the National Science Foundation.

“(3) STEM.—The term ‘STEM’ has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 [Pub. L. 111-358] (42 U.S.C. 6621 note).

“(4) VETERAN.—The term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.”

§ 1862u. NSF support of research on opioid addiction

The Director of the National Science Foundation, in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes of Health, shall support merit-reviewed and competitively awarded research on the science of opioid addiction.

(Pub. L. 116-335, §2, Jan. 13, 2021, 134 Stat. 5117.)

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Section was enacted as part of the Expanding Findings for Federal Opioid Research and Treatment Act, also known as the EFFORT Act, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

FINDINGS

Pub. L. 116-335, §1(b), Jan. 13, 2021, 134 Stat. 5117, provided that: “The Congress finds that—

“(1) research gaps currently exist in the prevention and treatment of opioid addiction;

“(2) the National Science Foundation’s research on opioid addiction has increased understanding of the neuroscience of addiction, substance abuse intervention, the role of illicit supply networks, the secondary effects on families, the use of technology to address the opioid epidemic, and options for alternative, non-addictive therapeutics for pain; and

“(3) the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health have recognized that fundamental questions in basic, clinical, and translational research would benefit greatly from multidisciplinary approaches and collaboration.”

§ 1862v. National Science Foundation research**(a) In general**

The Director of the National Science Foundation, in consultation with the Director of the

National Institutes of Health and the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and taking into consideration prioritized research agendas or strategic plans, as appropriate, shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, award grants on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to institutions of higher education (or consortia of such institutions) to support multidisciplinary, fundamental research with potential relevance to suicide, including potential relevance to prevention and treatment, including, but not limited to—

(1) basic understanding of human social behavior;

(2) the neural basis of human cognition;

(3) basic understanding of cognitive, linguistic, social, cultural, and biological processes related to human development across the lifespan;

(4) basic understanding of perceptual, motor, and cognitive processes, and their interaction, in typical human behavior; and

(5) basic understanding of the relevance of drug and alcohol abuse.

(b) Encouraging applications from early career researchers

To promote the development of early career researchers, in awarding funds under subsection (a), the Director of the National Science Foundation shall encourage applications submitted by early career researchers, including doctoral students or postdoctoral researchers.

(Pub. L. 116-339, §3, Jan. 13, 2021, 134 Stat. 5126.)

Editorial Notes

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Section was enacted as part of the Advancing Research to Prevent Suicide Act, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

FINDINGS

Pub. L. 116-339, §2, Jan. 13, 2021, 134 Stat. 5126, provided that: “Congress finds the following:

“(1) The rate of Americans dying by suicide is on the rise, increasing 10.7 to 14.0 deaths per 100,000 people from 2001 to 2017.

“(2) Suicide is the tenth-leading cause of death among people in the United States and the second-leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 15 and 34.

“(3) The National Science Foundation funds research that is improving our basic understanding of factors with potential relevance to suicide, including potential relevance to prevention and treatment.

“(4) Despite progress in mental health research, current gaps exist in scientific understanding and basic knowledge of human neural, genetic, cognitive, perceptual, behavioral, social, and environmental factors with potential relevance to suicide.”

§ 1862w. NSF support of research on impacts of social media on human trafficking**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) Human trafficking

The term “human trafficking” means an act or practice described in section 7102(11) of title 22.

(2) Social media platform

The term “social media platform” means a website or internet medium that—

(A) permits a person to become a registered user, establish an account, or create a profile for the purpose of allowing users to create, share, and view user-generated content through such an account or profile;

(B) enables 1 or more users to generate content that can be viewed by other users of the medium; and

(C) primarily serves as a medium for users to interact with content generated by other users of the medium.

(b) Support of research

The Director of the National Science Foundation, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall support merit-reviewed and competitively awarded research on the impact of online social media platforms on the maintenance or expansion of human trafficking, which may include—

(1) fundamental research on digital forensic tools or other technologies for verifying the authenticity of social media platform users and their materials, that are utilized in the promotion or operation of human trafficking networks;

(2) fundamental research on privacy preserving technical tools that may aid law enforcement’s ability to identify and prosecute individuals or entities promoting or involved in human trafficking;

(3) social and behavioral research related to social media platform users who engage with those promoting or involved in human trafficking;

(4) research on the effectiveness of expanding public understanding, awareness, or law enforcement efforts in combating human trafficking through social media platforms; and

(5) research awards coordinated with other Federal agencies and programs, including the Information Integrity Research and Development Interagency Working Group and the Privacy Research and Development Interagency Working Group of the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, the Office for Victims of Crime of the Department of Justice, the Blue Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security, the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons of the Department of State, and activities of the Department of Transportation and the Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking.

(c) Survivors

To the extent possible, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall ensure that research supported under subsection (b) incorporates the experiences, input, and safety and privacy concerns of human trafficking survivors.

(d) Reports**(1) Findings and recommendations**

Not later than 1 year after January 5, 2023, the Director of the National Science Founda-

tion shall report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives—

(A) the Director’s findings with respect to the feasibility for research opportunities, including with the private sector social media platform companies, to improve the ability to combat human trafficking operations; and

(B) any recommendations of the Director that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination among the private sector, the National Science Foundation, and relevant Federal agencies to improve the ability to combat human trafficking operations through social media.

(2) Results of research

Not later than 4 years after January 5, 2023, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives on the results of the research supported under this section.

(Pub. L. 117-348, title I, §124, Jan. 5, 2023, 136 Stat. 6218.)

Editorial Notes**CODIFICATION**

Section was enacted as part of the Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

§ 1863. National Science Board**(a) Composition; appointment; establishment of policies of the Foundation**

The Board shall consist of twenty-four members to be appointed by the President and of the Director ex officio. In addition to any powers and functions otherwise granted to it by this chapter, the Board shall establish the policies of the Foundation, within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress.

(b) Executive Committee; delegation of powers and functions

The Board shall have an Executive Committee as provided in section 1865 of this title, and may delegate to it or to the Director or both such of the powers and functions granted to the Board by this chapter as it deems appropriate.

(c) Meetings; nominations; quorum; notice

The persons nominated for appointment as members of the Board (1) shall be eminent in the