

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5965

To direct the Secretary of Energy to award grants to establish Lab-Embedded Entrepreneurship Programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. FOSTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to award grants to establish Lab-Embedded Entrepreneurship Programs, 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 “Leveraging our Na-
5 tional Labs to Develop Tomorrow’s Technology Leaders
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. LAB-EMBEDDED ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall
9 award grants to eligible entities under subsection (b) for

1 the purpose of establishing or maintaining programs, to
2 be known as Lab-Embedded Entrepreneurship Programs,
3 to provide entrepreneurial fellowships, with access to the
4 research facilities, lab expertise, and mentorship opportu-
5 nities of a National Laboratory, to perform research and
6 development and gain expertise that may be required or
7 beneficial for the commercial application of research ideas.

8 (b) ENTREPRENEURIAL FELLOWSHIPS.—An entre-
9 preneurial fellow participating in a program described in
10 subsection (a) shall be provided with—

11 (1) opportunities for entrepreneurial training,
12 professional development, and networking through
13 exposure to leaders from academia, industry, govern-
14 ment, and finance who may serve as advisors to or
15 partners of the fellow;

16 (2) financial and technical support for research
17 and development activities;

18 (3) fellowship awards to cover costs of living,
19 health insurance, and travel stipends for the dura-
20 tion of the fellowship; and

21 (4) and any other resources determined appro-
22 priate by the Secretary of Energy.

23 (c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The entities eligible to re-
24 ceive grants under subsection (a) include—

25 (1) a National Laboratory;

- 1 (2) a nonprofit organization;
- 2 (3) an institution of higher education;
- 3 (4) a federally owned corporation; and
- 4 (5) any other entity or entities that the Sec-
5 retary of Energy deems appropriate.

6 (d) EVALUATION.—

7 (1) METRICS.—The Secretary of Energy shall
8 develop metrics to assess the effectiveness of each
9 program receiving a grant under subsection (a) in
10 achieving the purposes of this section.

11 (2) ASSESSMENTS; REPORT.—Not later than 4
12 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
13 Secretary of Energy shall—

14 (A) conduct assessments, at least bienni-
15 ally, of each program receiving a grant under
16 subsection (a) based on the metrics developed
17 pursuant to paragraph (1); and

18 (B) submit to the Committee on Science,
19 Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives and the Committee on Energy and
21 Natural Resources of the Senate a report sum-
22 marizing the findings of these assessments.

23 (e) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Energy shall
24 oversee the planning and coordination of grants under

1 subsection (a) and shall identify and disseminate best
2 practices for achieving the purpose of this section.

3 (f) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—The Secretary of
4 Energy shall coordinate with other executive branch agen-
5 cies, including the Department of Defense, regarding op-
6 portunities to partner with programs receiving a grant
7 under subsection (a).

8 (g) NATIONAL LABORATORY DEFINED.—In this sec-
9 tion, the term “National Laboratory” has the meaning
10 given the term in section 2(3) of the Energy Policy Act
11 of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801(3)).

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