

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4427

To provide for Department of Energy and Small Business Administration joint research and development activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2024

Mr. KENNEDY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide for Department of Energy and Small Business Administration joint research and development activities, 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 “DOE and SBA Re-
5 search Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND SMALL BUSINESS**

7 **ADMINISTRATION JOINT RESEARCH AND DE-**
8 **VELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy and the
10 Administrator of the Small Business Administration (in

1 this section referred to as the “covered officials”) shall
2 enter into a memorandum of understanding or other ap-
3 propriate agreement to carry out cross-cutting and col-
4 laborative research and development activities focused on
5 the joint advancement of Department of Energy and
6 Small Business Administration mission requirements and
7 priorities.

8 (b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR AGREE-
9 MENT.—The covered officials shall carry out and coordi-
10 nate the activities described in subsection (a) by entering
11 into one or more memoranda of understanding or other
12 appropriate agreements, as jointly determined by the cov-
13 ered officials.

14 (c) INCLUSION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.—In
15 carrying out the activities described in subsection (a), the
16 covered officials shall ensure the inclusion of small busi-
17 ness concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small
18 Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) in such activities, as appro-
19 priate.

20 (d) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the ac-
21 tivities described in subsection (a), the covered officials
22 may—

23 (1) carry out reimbursable agreements between
24 the Department of Energy, the Small Business Ad-
25 ministration, and appropriate entities in order to

1 maximize the effectiveness of research and develop-
2 ment activities carried out pursuant to a memo-
3 randum or agreement described in subsection (b);
4 and

5 (2) collaborate with other Federal agencies as
6 appropriate to carry out such activities.

7 (e) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, the covered officials shall
9 submit to Congress a report on activities carried out pur-
10 suant to a memorandum or agreement described in sub-
11 section (b) that includes the following:

12 (1) Coordination between the covered officials
13 involved in such activities.

14 (2) Potential opportunities to expand the tech-
15 nical capabilities of the Department of Energy and
16 the Small Business Administration.

17 (3) Collaborative research achievements.

18 (4) Areas of future mutually beneficial success.

19 (5) Continuation of coordination activities be-
20 tween the Department of Energy and the Small
21 Business Administration.

22 (f) RESEARCH SECURITY.—The activities carried out
23 pursuant to a memorandum or agreement described in
24 subsection (b) shall be applied in a manner consistent with
25 subtitle D of title VI of the Research and Development,

1 Competition, and Innovation Act (Public Law 117–167;
2 42 U.S.C. 19231 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 3. COMPLIANCE WITH CUTGO.**

4 No additional amounts are authorized to be appro-
5 priated to carry out this Act or the amendments made
6 by this Act.

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