

Union Calendar No. 416

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4675

[Report No. 115-554]

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to provide for a low-dose radiation basic research program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. WEBER of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

FEBRUARY 13, 2018

Additional sponsor: Mr. DUNN

FEBRUARY 13, 2018

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on December 18, 2017]

A BILL

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to provide for
a low-dose radiation basic research 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 “Low-Dose Radiation Re-*
5 *search Act of 2017”.*

6 **SEC. 2. LOW-DOSE RADIATION RESEARCH PROGRAM.**

7 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle G of title IX of the Energy*
8 *Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16311 et seq.) is amended*
9 *by inserting after section 977 the following new section:*

10 **“SEC. 977A. LOW-DOSE RADIATION RESEARCH PROGRAM.**

11 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a*
12 *basic research program on low-dose radiation to—*

13 *“(1) enhance the scientific understanding of, and*
14 *reduce uncertainties associated with, the effects of ex-*
15 *posure to low-dose radiation; and*

16 *“(2) inform improved risk-assessment and risk-*
17 *management methods with respect to such radiation.*

18 *“(b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—In carrying out the*
19 *program required under subsection (a), the Secretary*
20 *shall—*

21 *“(1) formulate scientific goals for low-dose radi-*
22 *ation basic research in the United States;*

23 *“(2) identify ongoing scientific challenges for un-*
24 *derstanding the long-term effects of ionizing radiation*
25 *on biological systems;*

1 “(3) develop a long-term strategic and
2 prioritized basic research agenda to address such sci-
3 entific challenges in coordination with other research
4 efforts;

5 “(4) identify and, to the extent possible, quan-
6 tify, potential monetary and health-related benefits to
7 Federal agencies, the general public, industry, re-
8 search communities, and other users of information
9 produced by such research program;

10 “(5) leverage the collective body of knowledge
11 from existing low-dose radiation research; and

12 “(6) engage with other Federal agencies, research
13 communities, and potential users of information pro-
14 duced under this section, including institutions con-
15 cerning radiation research, medical physics, radi-
16 ology, health physics, and emergency response.

17 “(c) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program,
18 the Secretary, in coordination with the Physical Science
19 Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology
20 Council, shall—

21 “(1) support the directives under section 106 of
22 the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act
23 (42 U.S.C. 6601 note);

24 “(2) ensure that the Office of Science of the De-
25 partment of Energy consults with the National Aero-

1 *navitics and Space Administration, the National In-*
2 *stitutes of Health, the Environmental Protection*
3 *Agency, the Department of Defense, the Nuclear Regu-*
4 *latory Commission, and the Department of Homeland*
5 *Security;*

6 *“(3) advise and assist the National Science and*
7 *Technology Council on policies and initiatives in ra-*
8 *diation biology, including enhancing scientific knowl-*
9 *edge of the effects of low-dose radiation on biological*
10 *systems to improve radiation risk-assessment and*
11 *risk-management methods; and*

12 *“(4) identify opportunities to stimulate inter-*
13 *national cooperation relating to low-dose radiation*
14 *and leverage research and knowledge from sources*
15 *outside of the United States.*

16 *“(d) RESEARCH PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after*
17 *the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall trans-*
18 *mit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*
19 *of the House of Representatives and the Committee on En-*
20 *ergy and Natural Resources of the Senate a 4-year research*
21 *plan that identifies and prioritizes basic research needs re-*
22 *lating to low-dose radiation. In developing such plan, the*
23 *Secretary shall incorporate the components described in*
24 *subsection (b).*

1 “(e) *DEFINITION OF LOW-DOSE RADIATION.*—*In this*
2 *section, the term ‘low-dose radiation’ means a radiation*
3 *dose of less than 100 millisieverts.*

4 “(f) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—*Nothing in this sec-*
5 *tion shall be construed to subject any research carried out*
6 *by the Secretary for the program under this section to any*
7 *limitations described in 977(e) of the Energy Policy Act*
8 *of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16317(e)).*

9 “(g) *FUNDING.*—*For purposes of carrying out this sec-*
10 *tion, the Secretary is authorized to make available from*
11 *funds provided to the Biological and Environmental Re-*
12 *search Program—*

13 “(1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2018;

14 “(2) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2019;

15 “(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2020; and

16 “(4) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2021.”.

17 “(b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—*The table of contents*
18 *for subtitle G of title IX of the Energy Policy Act of 2005*
19 *is amended by inserting after the item relating to section*
20 *977 the following:*

 “Sec. 977A. *Low-dose radiation research program.*”.

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