

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5266

To establish a research security training requirement for Federal research grant personnel, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

Mr. WALTZ (for himself and Mr. LUCAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To establish a research security training requirement for Federal research grant personnel, 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. RESEARCH SECURITY TRAINING REQUIRE-**
4 **MENT FOR FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANT PER-**
5 **SONNEL.**

6 (a) ANNUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENT.—Drawing on
7 stakeholder input, not later than 12 months after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, each Federal research agency
9 shall establish a requirement that, as part of an applica-

1 tion for a research and development award from the agen-
2 cy—

3 (1) each covered individual listed on the appli-
4 cation for a research and development award certify
5 that they have completed research security training
6 that meets the guidelines developed under subsection
7 (b) within one year of the application; and

8 (2) each institution of higher education or other
9 organization applying for such an award certify that
10 each covered individual who is employed by the insti-
11 tution or organization and listed on the application
12 has been made aware of the requirement under this
13 subsection.

14 (b) TRAINING GUIDELINES.—The Director of the Of-
15 fice of Science and Technology Policy, acting through the
16 National Science and Technology Council and in accord-
17 ance with the authority provided under section 1746(a)
18 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
19 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 42 U.S.C. 6601 note), shall
20 develop guidelines for institutions of higher education and
21 other organizations receiving Federal research and devel-
22 opment funds to use in developing their own training pro-
23 grams to address the unique needs, challenges, and risk
24 profiles of such institutions, including adoption of training
25 modules developed under subsection (c).

1 (c) SECURITY TRAINING MODULES.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
3 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director
4 of the Office of Science and Technology Policy in co-
5 ordination with the Director of the National Science
6 Foundation and the Director of the National Insti-
7 tute of Health, and in consultation with other rel-
8 evant Federal research agencies, shall enter into an
9 agreement or contract with a qualified entity for the
10 development of online research security training
11 modules for the research community, including mod-
12 ules focused on international collaboration and inter-
13 national travel, foreign interference, and rules for
14 proper use of funds, disclosure, conflict of commit-
15 ment, and conflict of interest.

16 (2) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—Prior to entering
17 into the agreement under paragraph (1), the Direc-
18 tor of the Office of Science and Technology Policy
19 shall seek input from academic, private sector, intel-
20 ligence, and law enforcement stakeholders regarding
21 the scope and content of training modules, including
22 the diversity of needs across institutions of higher
23 education and other awardees of different sizes and
24 types, and recommendations for minimizing adminis-

1 trative burden on institutions of higher education
2 and researchers.

3 (3) DEVELOPMENT.—The Director of the Office
4 of Science and Technology Policy shall ensure that
5 the entity identified in paragraph (1)—

6 (A) develops modules that can be adapted
7 and utilized across Federal science agencies;
8 and

9 (B) develops and implements a plan for
10 regularly updating the modules as needed.

11 (d) CONSISTENCY.—The Director of the Office of
12 Science and Technology Policy shall ensure that the train-
13 ing requirements issued by Federal research agencies
14 under subsection (a) are consistent.

15 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) The term “covered individual” means an in-
17 dividual who—

18 (A) contributes in a substantive, meaning-
19 ful way to the scientific development or execu-
20 tion of a research and development project pro-
21 posed to be carried out with a research and de-
22 velopment award from a Federal research agen-
23 cy; and

24 (B) is designated as a covered individual
25 by the Federal research agency concerned.

1 (2) The term “Federal research agency” means
2 any Federal agency with an annual extramural re-
3 search expenditure of over \$100,000,000.

4 (3) The term “research and development
5 award” means support provided to an individual or
6 entity by a Federal research agency to carry out re-
7 search and development activities, which may include
8 support in the form of a grant, contract, cooperative
9 agreement, or other such transaction. The term does
10 not include a grant, contract, agreement or other
11 transaction for the procurement of goods or services
12 to meet the administrative needs of a Federal re-
13 search agency.

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