

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3858

To establish a national science and technology strategy, a quadrennial science and technology review, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2021

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

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## A BILL

To establish a national science and technology strategy, a quadrennial science and technology review, 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 “National Science and  
5 Technology Strategy Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY.**

7 Section 206 of the National Science and Technology  
8 Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42  
9 U.S.C. 6615) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 206. NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRAT-**  
2 **EGY.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the end of each  
4 calendar year immediately after the calendar year in which  
5 a review under section 206b is completed, the Director of  
6 the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in consulta-  
7 tion with the National Science and Technology Council,  
8 shall develop and submit to Congress a comprehensive na-  
9 tional science and technology strategy of the United States  
10 to meet national research and development objectives for  
11 the following 4-year period (in this Act referred to as ‘the  
12 national science and technology strategy’).

13 “(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Each national science and  
14 technology strategy required by subsection (a) shall delin-  
15 eate a national science and technology strategy consistent  
16 with—

17 “(1) the recommendations and priorities devel-  
18 oped by the review established in section 206b;

19 “(2) the most recent national security strategy  
20 report submitted pursuant to section 1032 of the  
21 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year  
22 2012 (50 U.S.C. 3043);

23 “(3) other relevant national plans; and

24 “(4) the strategic plans of relevant Federal de-  
25 partments and agencies.

1       “(c) CONSULTATION.—The Director shall consult as  
2 necessary with the Office of Management and Budget and  
3 other appropriate elements of the Executive Office of the  
4 President to ensure that the recommendations and prior-  
5 ities delineated in the science and technology strategy are  
6 incorporated in the development of annual budget re-  
7 quests.

8       “(d) REPORT.—The President shall submit to Con-  
9 gress each year a comprehensive report on the national  
10 science and technology strategy of the United States. Each  
11 report on the national science and technology strategy of  
12 the United States shall include a description of—

13               “(1) strategic objectives and priorities necessary  
14 to maintain the leadership of the United States in  
15 science and technology and to advance science and  
16 technology to address societal and national chal-  
17 lenges, including near-term, medium-term, and long-  
18 term research priorities;

19               “(2) programs, policies, and activities that the  
20 President recommends across all Federal agencies to  
21 achieve the strategic objectives in paragraph (1);  
22 and

23               “(3) global trends in science and technology, in-  
24 cluding potential threats to the leadership of the  
25 United States in science and technology and oppor-

1       tunities for international collaboration in science and  
2       technology.

3       “(e) PUBLICATION.—The Director shall, consistent  
4       with the protection of national security and other sensitive  
5       matters to the maximum extent practicable, make each re-  
6       port submitted under subsection (d) publicly available on  
7       an internet website of the Office.”.

8       **SEC. 3. QUADRENNIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RE-**  
9       **VIEW.**

10       The National Science and Technology Policy, Organi-  
11       zation, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.)  
12       is amended by inserting after section 206 the following:

13       **“SEC. 206b. QUADRENNIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RE-**  
14       **VIEW.**

15       “(a) REQUIREMENTS.—

16               “(1) QUADRENNIAL REVIEWS REQUIRED.—Not  
17       later than December 31, 2022, and every 4 years  
18       thereafter, the Director of the Office of Science and  
19       Technology Policy shall complete a review of the  
20       science and technology enterprise of the United  
21       States (in this section referred to as the ‘quadren-  
22       nial science and technology review’).

23               “(2) SCOPE.—The quadrennial science and  
24       technology review shall be a comprehensive examina-  
25       tion of the science and technology strategy of the

1 United States, including recommendations for main-  
2 taining global leadership in science and technology  
3 and advancing science and technology to address the  
4 societal and national challenges and guidance on the  
5 coordination of programs, assets, capabilities, budg-  
6 et, policies, and authorities across all Federal re-  
7 search and development programs.

8 “(3) CONSULTATION.—The Director of the Of-  
9 fice of Science and Technology Policy shall conduct  
10 each quadrennial science and technology review  
11 under this subsection in consultation with—

12 “(A) the National Science and Technology  
13 Council;

14 “(B) the heads of other relevant Federal  
15 agencies;

16 “(C) the President’s Council of Advisors  
17 on Science and Technology;

18 “(D) the National Science Board;

19 “(E) the National Security Council; and

20 “(F) other relevant governmental and non-  
21 governmental entities, including representatives  
22 from industry, institutions of higher education,  
23 nonprofit organizations, Members of Congress,  
24 and other policy experts.

1           “(4) COORDINATION.—The Director shall en-  
2       sure that each quadrennial science and technology  
3       review conducted under this section is coordinated  
4       with other relevant statutorily required reviews, and  
5       to the maximum extent practicable incorporates in-  
6       formation and recommendations from existing re-  
7       views to avoid duplication.

8           “(b) CONTENTS.—In each quadrennial science and  
9       technology review, the Director shall—

10           “(1) provide an integrated view of, and rec-  
11       ommendations for, science and technology policy  
12       across the Federal Government, while considering  
13       economic and national security and other societal  
14       and national challenges;

15           “(2) assess and recommend priorities for re-  
16       search, development and demonstration programs to  
17       maintain American leadership in science and tech-  
18       nology;

19           “(3) assess and recommend priorities for re-  
20       search, development, and demonstration programs to  
21       address societal and national challenges;

22           “(4) assess the global competition in science  
23       and technology and identify potential threats to the  
24       leadership of the United States in science and tech-

1 nology and opportunities for international collabora-  
2 tion;

3 “(5) assess and make recommendations on the  
4 science, technology, engineering, mathematics and  
5 computer science workforce in the United States;

6 “(6) assess and make recommendations to im-  
7 prove regional innovation across the United States;

8 “(7) assess and make recommendations to im-  
9 prove translation of basic research and the enhance-  
10 ment of technology transfer of federally funded re-  
11 search;

12 “(8) assess and identify the infrastructure and  
13 tools needed to maintain the leadership of the  
14 United States in science and technology and address  
15 other societal and national challenges; and

16 “(9) review administrative or legislative policies  
17 that affect the science and technology enterprise and  
18 identify and make recommendations on policies that  
19 hinder research and development in the United  
20 States.

21 “(c) REPORTING.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December  
23 31 of the year in which a quadrennial science and  
24 technology review is conducted, the Director shall  
25 submit a report of the review to Congress.

1           “(2) PUBLICATION.—The Director shall, con-  
2           sistent with the protection of national security and  
3           other sensitive matters to the maximum extent pos-  
4           sible, make each report submitted under paragraph  
5           (1) publicly available on an internet website of the  
6           Office of Science and Technology Policy.”.

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