Schedule of Laws Repealed—Continued

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Schedule of Laws Repealed (Continued): By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. Young):

S. 3832. A bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology in the redesigned National Science and Technology Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, and innovation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3832

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Endless Frontier Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) For over 70 years, the United States has been the unequivocal global leader in scientific and technological innovation, and as a result the people of the United States have benefited through good-paying jobs, economic prosperity, and a higher quality of life. Today, however, this leadership position is being eroded and challenged by foreign competitors, some of whom are stealing intellectual property and trade secrets of the United States by investing in fundamental research and commercialization to dominate the key technology fields of the future. While the United States once led the world in the share of our economy invested in research, our Nation now ranks 9th globally in total research and development and 12th in publicly financed research and development.

(2) Without a significant increase in investment in research, education, technology transfer, and the core strengths of the United States innovation ecosystem, it is only a matter of time before the global competitors of the United States overtake the United States in terms of technological primacy. The country that wins the race in key technologies—such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, advanced communications, and advanced manufacturing—will be the superpower of the future.

(3) The Federal Government must catalyze United States innovation by boosting fundamental research investments focused on discovering, creating, commercializing, and producing new technologies to ensure the leadership of the United States in the industries of the future.

(4) The distribution of innovation jobs and investment in the United States has become largely concentrated in just a few locations, while much of the Nation has been left out of growth opportunities. More than 90 percent of the Nation's innovation sector employment growth in the last 15 years was generated in just 5 major cities. The Federal Government must address this imbalance in opportunity by partnering with the private sector to build new technology hubs across the country, spreading innovation sector jobs more broadly, and tapping the talent and potential of the entire Nation to ensure the United States leads the industries of the future.

(5) Since its inception, the National Science Foundation has carried out vital work supporting basic research and people to create knowledge that is a primary driver of the economy of the United States and enhances the Nation's security.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION.

(a) REDESIGNATION OF NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AS NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION.—

(1) In general.—Section 2 of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1661) is amended—

(A) in the section heading, by striking "and Technology" after "Science"; and

(B) by striking "The Deputy Director for Science shall act". After "The Deputy Director for Science shall act", add the following: "The Deputy Director for Science shall act as the "National Science and Technology Foundation"."

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, rule, regulation, certificate, directive, instruction, or other official paper in force on the date of enactment of this Act to the National Science Foundation shall be considered to refer to and apply to the National Science and Technology Foundation.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECTOR FOR TECHNOLOGY.—Section 6 of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1664a) is amended—

(1) by striking the first sentence, by striking "DEPUTY DIRECTOR" and inserting "DIRECTOR"; and

(2) by striking "The Deputy Director shall act" and inserting "The Director shall act".

SEC. 8A. DIRECTORATE FOR TECHNOLOGY.

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(2) by striking "The Deputy Director shall act" and inserting "The Director shall act".
"(1) DEPUTY DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Deputy Director’ means the Deputy Director for Technology.

(2) DESIGNATED COUNTRY.—The term ‘designated country’ means a country that has been approved and designated in writing by the President for purposes of this section, after providing—

(A) not less than 30 days of advance notification and explanation to the relevant congressional committees before the designation; and

(B) in-person briefings to such committees, if requested during the 30-day advance notification period described in subparagraph (A).

(3) DIRECTORATE.—The term ‘Directorate’ means the Directorate for Technology established under subsection (b).

(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

(5) KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.—The term ‘key technology focus areas’ means the areas included on the most recent list under subsection (c)(2).

(6) REFERRAL.—The term ‘referred to’ means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(7) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) GRANT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Endless Frontier Act, the Director shall establish in the Foundation a Directorate for Technology. The Directorate shall carry out the duties and responsibilities described in this section, in order to further the following goals:

(A) Strengthening the leadership of the United States in critical technologies through fundamental research in the key technology focus areas.

(B) Improving the competitiveness of the United States in the key technology focus areas by improving education in the key technology focus areas and attracting more students to them.

(C) Consistent with the operations of the Foundation, fostering the economic and societal impact of federally funded research and development through an accelerated translation of fundamental advances in the key technology focus areas into processes and products that can help achieve national goals related to economic competitiveness, domestic manufacturing, national security, shared prosperity, energy and the environment, health, education and workforce development, and transportation.

(2) DEPUTY DIRECTOR.—The Directorate shall be headed by the Deputy Director.

(3) ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.

(I) HIRING AUTHORITY.—

(I) EXPERTS IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING.—The Director shall have the authority to carry out a program of personnel management authority for the Directorate in the same manner, and subject to the same requirements, as the program of personnel management authority authorized for the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency under section 1599h of the United States Code, for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

(II) HIGHLY QUALIFIED EXPERTS IN NEEDED OCCUPATIONS.—In addition to the authority provided to the Director under this subparagraph, the Director shall have the authority to carry out a program of personnel management authority for the Directorate in the same manner, and subject to the same requirements, as the program of personnel management authority for the Secretary of Defense under section 9903 of title 5, United States Code.

(III) APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY.—To the extent needed to carry out the duties in paragraph (1), the Director shall utilize hiring authorities under section 3372 of title 5, United States Code, to staff the Directorate, with employees from other Federal agencies, State and local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, institutions of higher education, and other organizations, as described in this section, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions, that apply to such individuals utilized to accomplish other missions of the Foundation.

(II) PROGRAM MANAGERS.—The employees of the Directorate may include program managers for the key technology focus areas, who shall be responsible for programs of the managers employed by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency for the oversight and selection of programs supported by the Directorate.

(III) SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.—Recipients of support under the programs and activities of the Directorate shall be selected by program managers or other employees of the Directorate. The Directorate may use a peer review process to inform the decisions of program managers or other employees.

(IV) ADDITIONAL HIRING AUTHORITY.—To the extent needed to carry out the duties of the Deputy Director, the Director may appoint 1 or more Assistant Directors for the Directorate as the Director determines necessary, in the same manner as other Assistant Directors of the Foundation are appointed.

(IV) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Endless Frontier Act, the Director shall prepare and submit a report to the relevant congressional committees regarding the establishment of the Directorate.

(I) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DIRECTOR.—

(I) DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY FOCUS OF THE DIRECTOR.—The Director, acting through the Deputy Director, shall in order to accomplish the goals described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of subsection (b)(1) consistent with the most recent report conducted under section 5(b) of the Endless Frontier Act.

(II) KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.—

(A) INITIAL LIST.—The initial key technology focus areas are—

(I) artificial intelligence and machine learning;

(II) high performance computing, semiconductors, and advanced computer hardware;

(III) quantum computing and information systems;

(IV) robotics, automation, and advanced manufacturing;

(V) natural or anthropogenic disaster prevention;

(VI) advanced communications technology;

(VII) biotechnology, genomics, and synthetic biology;

(VIII) cybersecurity, data storage, and data management technologies;

(IX) advanced energy; and

(X) materials science, engineering, and applications relevant to the other key technology focus areas described in this subparagraph.

(B) REVIEW OF KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS—

I. ADDING OR DELETING KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.—Beginning on the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of the Endless Frontier Act, and every 4 years thereafter, the Director, acting through the Deputy Director, shall, in consultation with the Board of Advisors, review the list of key technology focus areas and—

(1) as part of that review, may add or delete key technology focus areas if the competitive threats to the United States have shifted (whether because the United States or other nations have advanced or fallen behind in a technological area), subject to clause (ii).

(2) LIMIT ON KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.—Not more than 10 key technology focus areas shall be included on the list of key technology focus areas at any time.

(C) UPDATING FOCUS AREAS AND DISTRIBUTION.—Upon the completion of each review under this subparagraph, the Director shall make the list of key technology focus areas readily available and publish the list in the Federal Register, even if no changes have been made to the prior list.

(2) ACTIVITIES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the duties and functions of the Directorate, the Director, acting through the Deputy Director, may—

(V) award grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to—

(1) individual institutions of higher education for work at centers or by individual researchers;

(2) not-for-profit entities; and

(III) consortia that—

(aa) shall include and be led by an institution of higher education, and may include 1 or more additional institutions of higher education;

(bb) may include 1 or more entities described in subclause (I) or (II) and, if determined to be appropriate by the Director, not-for-profit entities, including small businesses; and

(cc) may include 1 or more entities described in subclause (I) or (II) from treaty allies and security partners of the United States;

(IV) provide funds to other divisions of the Foundation, including—

(1) to the other directorates of the Foundation to pursue basic questions about natural and physical phenomena that could enable advances in the key technology focus areas;

(2) to the Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences to study questions that could affect the design, operation, deployment, or the social and ethical consequences of technologies in the key technology focus areas; and

(III) to the Directorate for Education and Human Resources to further the creation of a domestic workforce capable of advancing the key technology focus areas;

(V) provide funds included on the list of key technology focus areas;

(VI) provide funds included on the list of key technology focus areas.

(iv) The term ‘Endless Frontier Act’ means—

(A) the Endless Frontier Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)) in the manner as awards under such program are made by the Director of the Foundation;

"
“(v) administer prize challenges under section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719) in the key technology focus areas, in order to expand public-private partnerships beyond direct research funding; and

“(vi) enter into and perform such contracts, including cooperative research and development agreements and grants and cooperative agreements or other transactions, as may be necessary in the conduct of the work of the Directorate and on such terms that the Deputy Director considers appropriate, in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

“(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the prescription of the Endless Frontier Act, the Director shall prepare and submit to the relevant congressional committees a spending plan for the next 5 years for each of the activities described in subparagraph (A), including—

“(i) a plan to seek out additional investments from—

“(I) certain designated countries; and

“(II) if appropriate, private sector entities; and

“(ii) the planned activities of the Directorate to secure federally funded science and technology to section 1746 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92).

“(C) REQUIREMENTS.—The activities described in section 1746 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) shall simultaneously submit the report to the relevant congressional committees a spending plan for the next 5 years for each of the activities described in subparagraph (A), including—

“(i) a plan to carry out fundamental research to advance innovation in the key technology focus areas, and

“(AA) innovations derived from research carried out under item (aa), through such activities as authorship, publications, and public-private partnerships beyond direct research funding; and

“(bb) to further the development of innovations in the key technology focus areas, including—

“(a) for the costs of equipment, including mid-tier infrastructure, and the purchase of cyberinfrastructure resources, including computer time; or

“(bb) for other activities or costs necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section.

“(II) SUPPORT OF REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—Each center established under subparagraph (A) may support and participate in, as appropriate, the activities of any regional technology hub designated under section 27(d) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722(d)).

“(C) REQUIREMENTS.—The Director shall ensure that any institution of higher education or consortium receiving a grant or cooperative agreement under subparagraph (A) has demonstrated an ability to advance the goals described in subsection (b)(1).

“(D) REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition of receiving a grant, on a competitive basis, institutions of higher education or consortia described in paragraph (3)(A)(i)(III) to establish test beds and fabrication facilities to advance the operation, integration and, as appropriate, manufacturing of innovative technologies in the key technology focus areas, which may include hardware or software. The goal of such test beds and facilities shall be to accelerate the movement of innovative technologies into the commercial market through existing and new companies.

“(B) PROPOSALS.—A proposal submitted under this paragraph shall, at a minimum, describe—

“(i) the 1 or more technologies that will be the focus of the test bed or fabrication facility;

“(ii) the goals of the work to be done at the test bed or facility; and

“(iii) the expected schedule for completing that work;

“(C) Awar ds.—Grants made under this paragraph shall contribute to the commercial viability of any technologies, which may include collaboration and funding from industry partners. The grant could provide additional funding for companies, and the use of such funding may include the following:

“(i) enable new technologies to mature to the point where the technologies are more likely to succeed in the commercial market; and

“(ii) reduce the risks to commercial success for new technologies earlier in their development.

“A grant awarded under this subparagraph for a purpose described in clause (i) or (ii) may also enable the institution of higher education or consortium to provide training and support to Scientists and engineers who are interested in research and commercialization, if the use is included in the proposal submitted under subparagraph (B).

“(D) REQUIREMENTS.—As a condition of receiving a grant under this paragraph, an institution of higher education or consortium shall publish and share with the public the results of the work conducted under this paragraph.
(9) Inapplicability.—Section 5(e)(1) shall not apply to grants, contracts, or other arrangements made under this section.

(d) Board of Advisors.—

(1) In General.—There is established in the Foundation a Board of Advisors for the Directorate (referred to in this section as the ‘Board of Advisors’), which shall provide advice to the Deputy Director pursuant to this subsection. The Board of Advisors shall not have any decision-making authority.

(2) Membership.—

(A) Composition.—The Board of Advisors shall be comprised of 12 members representing scientific leaders and experts from industry and academia, of whom—

(i) 4 shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(ii) 2 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

(iii) 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(iv) 4 shall be appointed by the Director.

(B) Opportunity for Input.—Before appointing any member under subparagraph (A), the appointing authority shall provide an opportunity for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and other entities to provide advice regarding potential appointees.

(C) Qualifications.—

(i) In General.—Each member appointed under subparagraph (A) shall—

(I) have extensive experience in a field related to the work of the Directorate, or other expertise relevant to developing technology roadmaps; and

(II) have, or be able to obtain within a reasonable period of time, a security clearance appropriate for the work of the Board of Advisors.

(ii) Expedited Security Clearances.—The process of obtaining a security clearance under clause (i)(II) may be expedited by the head of the appropriate Federal agency to enable the Board to receive classified briefings on the current and future technological capacity of other nations, and on the military implications of civilian technologies.

(D) Date.—The appointments of the members of the Board of Advisors shall be made not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Endless Frontier Act.

(3) Period of Appointment; Vacancies.—

(A) Initial Meeting.—A member of the Board of Advisors shall be appointed for a 3-year term, except that the Deputy Director shall adjust the terms for the first members of the Board of Advisors. That, within each appointment category described in clauses (i) through (v) of paragraph (2)(A), the terms expire on a staggered basis.

(B) Term Limits.—A member of the Board of Advisors shall not serve for more than 2 full consecutive terms.

(C) Vacancies.—Any vacancy in the Board of Advisors shall—

(i) not affect the powers of the Board of Advisors; and

(ii) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(4) Chairperson.—The members of the Board of Advisors shall elect 1 member to serve as the chairperson of the Board of Advisors.

(5) Meetings.—

(A) Initial Meeting.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Endless Frontier Act, the Board of Advisors shall hold the first meeting of the Board of Advisors.

(B) Additional Meeting.—After the first meeting of the Board of Advisors, the Board of Advisors shall meet upon the call of the chairperson or of the Director, and at least once every 180 days for the duration of the Board of Advisors.

(C) Meeting with the National Science Board.—The Board of Advisors shall hold a joint meeting with the National Science Board on at least an annual basis, on a date mutually selected by the chairperson of the Board of Advisors and the Chairman of the National Science Board, to include in the agenda of the Board of Advisors a discussion of current and future technological capacity of other nations, and on the military implications of civilian technologies.

(D) Quorum.—A majority of the members of the Board of Advisors shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

(E) DUTIES OF BOARD OF ADVISORS.—

(A) In General.—The Board of Advisors shall provide advice—

(i) to the Deputy Director on programs that could best be carried out to accomplish the purposes of this section;

(ii) to the Deputy Director to inform the reviews of key technology focus areas required under subsection (c)(2)(B); and

(iii) on other issues relating to the purposes and responsibilities of the Directorate, as requested by the Deputy Director.

(B) No Role in Awarding Grants, Contracts, or Cooperative Agreements.—The Board of Advisors shall not provide advice on or otherwise help determine what entities shall receive grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under this Act.

(C) Powers of the Board of Advisors.—

(A) Hearings.—The Board of Advisors may hold public or private hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony and receive such evidence (including classified testimony and evidence), and administer such oaths as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Board of Advisors under paragraph (6).

(B) Information from Federal Agencies.—

(i) In General.—Each Federal department or agency shall, in accordance with applicable procedures for the handling of classified information, provide reasonable access to documents, statistical data, and other such information that the Deputy Director, in consultation with the chairperson of the Board of Advisors, determines necessary to carry out its functions under paragraph (6).

(ii) Obtaining Classified Information.—

If the Board of Advisors, acting through the chairperson, seeks classified information from a Federal department or agency, the Deputy Director shall submit a written request to the head of the Federal department or agency, which shall provide such documents and statistical data, and other classified information described in clause (i), that is under the control of such agency.

(C) Financial Disclosure Reports.—Each member of the Board of Advisors shall be required to file a financial disclosure report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act, and such reports shall be held confidential and exempt from any law otherwise requiring their public disclosure.

(D) Board of Advisors Personnel and Operations.—

(A) Compensation of Members.—

(i) In General.—A member of the Board of Advisors shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Board of Advisors.

(ii) No Federal Employee Members.—No member of the Board of Advisors may hold any other Federal position. No member of the Board of Advisors may be an officer or employee of the United States during any portion of the term during which the member is on the Board of Advisors.

(B) Travel Expenses.—A member of the Board of Advisors shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their home or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Board of Advisors.

(C) Staff.—The Deputy Director, in consultation with the chairperson of the Board of Advisors, shall ascertain the need for a professional employee of the Foundation to serve as an executive director for the Board of Advisors.

(D) Government Employees.—

(i) In General.—Any Federal Government employee may be detailed to the Board of Advisors without reimbursement, and such detail shall not affect the employee’s status or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(ii) Employees of the Legislative Branch.—The Deputy Director shall establish procedures and policies to enable an employee of an office, agency, or other entity in the legislative branch of the Government to support the activities of the Board of Advisors.

(E) Procurement of Temporary and Intermittent Services.—The chairperson of the Board of Advisors, with approval from the Deputy Director, may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals which do not exceed the daily or hourly equivalent of the rates prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of that title.

(F) Assistance from Federal Agencies.—A Federal department or agency may provide to the Board of Advisors such services, funds, facilities, staff, and other support services as the Department or agency may determine advisable and as may be authorized by law.

(9) Permanent Board.—Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Board of Advisors.

(10) Areas of Funding Support.—Subject to the availability of funds under subsection (f), the Director shall, for each fiscal year, use—

(i) not less than 35 percent of funds provided to the Directorate for such year to carry out subsection (c)(6); and

(ii) not less than 15 percent of such funds to carry out subsection (c)(5) with the goal of awarding, across the key technology focus areas, at least 2,000 graduate fellowships and traineeships;

(C) not less than 1,000 post-doctorate fellowships;

(D) not less than 2,000 graduate fellowships and traineeships; and

(E) areas of funding support.

(11) Permanently Authorized.—

(A) Not fewer than 1,000 undergraduate scholarships; and

(B) not fewer than 2,000 graduate fellowships and traineeships.

(12) Authorization of Appropriations.—

(A) In General.—There are authorized to be appropriated for the Directorate, in addition to any other funds made available to the Directorate, a total of $100,000,000,000 for fiscal years 2021 through 2025, of which—

(i) $2,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2021;

(ii) $8,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2022;
“(A) $20,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2023;”
“(B) $35,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2024; and
“(C) $40,000,000,000 is authorized for fiscal year 2025.”

“(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 10 days after the date on which the budget of the President for a fiscal year is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the Director shall submit to the President and to Congress a report on the unfunded priorities of the National Science and Technology Foundation.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall provide:

(A) by redesignating subsection (d) as paragraphs (1) through (4), respectively; and
(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“3. DESIGNATION OF AND GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—

(1) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As part of the program established under subsection (b), the Secretary shall carry out a program—

(i) to designate eligible consortia as regional technology hubs that create the conditions, within a region, to facilitate activities that—

(I) enable United States leadership in a key technology focus area, complementing the Federal investments under section 8A of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.); and

(II) support regional economic development that diffuses innovation capacity around the United States, enabling better broad-based growth and competitiveness in key technology focus areas; and

(ii) to support regional technology hubs designated under clause (i).

(B) ELIGIBLE CONSORTIA.—For purposes of this subsection, an eligible consortium is a consortium that—

(i) includes—

(I) an institution of higher education;

(II) a local, regional, or State entrepreneurial organization or other public or private entity; and

(III) one or more—

(aa) nonprofit entities with relevant expertise;

(bb) venture development organizations;

(cc) financial institutions;

(dd) educational institutions, including career and technical education institutions; and

(II) workforce training organizations;

(III) firms in the key technology focus areas;

(V) Federal laboratories;

(VI) to attract new private, public, and philanthropic investment in the region for developing innovation capacity, including through targeting regional business entities;

(VII) to develop regional strategies for infrastructure improvements and site development in support of the regional technology hubs; and

(VIII) to further develop the further development of the key technology focus areas, including innovations derived from research conducted at institutions of higher education or other research entities, including research conducted by 1 or more university technology centers established under section 8A(c)(6) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), through activities that may include—

(aa) providing public-private partnerships in order to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies; and

(bb) creating and funding competitions to allow entrepreneurial institutions of higher education to illustrate their commercialization potential.

(2) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out the award of grants to eligible consortia designated under clause (i) of such paragraph.

(B) TERM.—Each grant awarded under subparagraph (A) shall be for a period of 5 years, but may be renewed once for an additional period of 5 years.

(3) MATCHING REQUIRED.—The total Federal financial assistance awarded in a given year to an eligible consortium in support of the eligible consortium’s operation as a regional technology hub under this subsection shall not exceed amounts as follows:

(i) In fiscal year 2021, 90 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

(ii) In fiscal year 2022, 85 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

(iii) In fiscal year 2023, 80 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

(iv) In fiscal year 2024 and in each fiscal year thereafter, 75 percent of the total funding of the regional technology hub in that fiscal year.

(4) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant awarded under subparagraph (A) shall use the grant for multiple activities determined appropriate by the Secretary, including—

(i) the permissible activities set forth under subsection (c)(2); and

(ii) activities in support of key technology focus areas—

(A) to develop the region’s skilled workforce through the training and retraining of workers and alignment of career technical training and educational programs in the region’s elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education;

(B) to develop regional strategies for infrastructure improvements and site development in support of the regional technology hubs; and

(C) to further develop the further development of the key technology focus areas, including innovations derived from research conducted at institutions of higher education or other research entities, including research conducted by 1 or more university technology centers established under section 8A(c)(6) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), through activities that may include—

(aa) providing public-private partnerships in order to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies; and

(bb) creating and funding competitions to allow entrepreneurial institutions of higher education to illustrate their commercialization potential.

(5) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In conducting the competitive process under subpart (B), the Secretary shall ensure that applications are evaluated on the basis of a geographic distribution in the designation of regional technology hubs—

(A) to designate regional technology hubs in as many regions of the United States as possible; and

(B) focusing on localities that have clear potential and relevant assets for developing a key technology focus area but have not yet become leading technology centers.

(6) APPROPRIATIONS LIMITATIONS.—

(A) HOLD HARMLESS.—No funds shall be appropriated to any other directorate or office of the Foundation to carry out this section for any fiscal year in which the total amount appropriated to the Foundation (not including amounts appropriated for the Office of the Director) is less than the total amount appropriated to the Foundation (not including such amounts), adjusted by the rate of inflation, for the previous fiscal year.

(B) BUDGET TRANSFERS.—The Director shall not transfer any funds appropriated to any other directorate or office of the Foundation to the Directorate.”.
GRANT AWARDS.—In selecting an eligible consortium, the Secretary shall—

(A) define one or more technology focus areas, consistent with the purpose of the Endless Frontiers Act.

(4) APPLICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium seeking a regional technology hub under clause (i) of paragraph (1)(A) and support under clause (ii) of such paragraph shall submit to the Secretary an application therefor at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may specify.

(B) CONSULTATION WITH NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AND UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.—In preparing an application for a regional technology hub under paragraph (1)(A), an applicant shall, to the extent practicable, consult with one or more of the national technology centers established under section 8A(c)(6) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.) that are other geographically dispersed entities conducting research on relevant key technology focus areas.

(5) CONSIDERATIONS FOR DESIGNATION AND GRANT AWARDS.—In selecting an eligible consortium that submitted an application under paragraph (4)(A) for designation and support under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall consider, at the following:

(A) The potential of the eligible consortium to advance the development of new technologies in a key technology focus area.

(B) The likelihood of positive regional economic impact, including increasing the number of high wage jobs, and creating new economic opportunities for economically disadvantaged populations.

(C) How the eligible consortium plans to integrate with and leverage the resources of one or more university technology centers established under section 8A(c) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.) in a related key technology focus area.

(D) How the eligible consortium will carry out workforce development and skills acquisition programming, including through the use of apprenticeships, internships, and other related activities authorized by the Secretary to support the development of a key technology focus area.

(F) How the eligible consortium will improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education programs in the identified region in elementary and secondary school and higher education institutions located in the identified region to support the development of a key technology focus area.

(G) How the eligible consortium plans to develop partnerships with venture development organizations and other sources of private investment in support of private sector activity, including launching new or expanding existing companies, in a key technology focus area.

(H) How the eligible consortium plans to organize the activities of regional partners in the public, private, and philanthropic sectors in support of the proposed regional technology hub, including the development of necessary infrastructure improvements and site preparation and decontamination activities.

(2) The alignment of activities of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership with the activities of a regional technology hub designated under subsection (i), as applicable.

(3) An identification of the benefits to the regional economy from the regional technology hub designated under subsection (i).

(4) The extent to which the regional technology hub designated under subsection (i) will use any Federal financial assistance under this section to achieve the purposes set forth under such subsection, and the extent to which such financial assistance has contributed to the purposes set forth under such subsection.

IV. REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS

SEC. 5. STRATEGY AND REPORT ON ECONOMIC SECURITY, SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Armed Services, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives an annual report on the results of the assessments conducted by the Secretary under subsection (a)(1) during the period covered by the report.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) In general.—From amounts designated by this section, each regional technology hub designated under subsection (a)(1) of such section, the Secretary shall—

(i) designate at least 1 regional technology hub under paragraph (1)(A)(i) of such section; and

(ii) award a grant under paragraph (3)(A) of such section to each regional technology hub designated under clause (i) of this subparagraph.

(2) REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—There is authorized to be appropriated—

(A) $10,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal year 2021 through 2025.

(e) IN GENERAL.—From amounts designated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, by striking “this section” and inserting “the provisions of this section other than subsection (d);” and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

(2) REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out subsection (d) $10,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal year 2021 through 2025.

IV. REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS

SEC. 5. STRATEGY AND REPORT ON ECONOMIC SECURITY, SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.
and Means, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) **Key Technology Focus Area**—The term **"key technology focus area"** means an area included on the most recent list under section 8A(c)(2) of the Act of May 10, 1950 (64 Stat. 149, chapter 171; 42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.).

(3) **National Security Strategy**—The term **"national security strategy"** means the national security strategy required by section 409 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3043).

(b) **Strategy and Report**—

(1) **In General**—In 2021 and in each year thereafter, the applicable date set forth under paragraph (2), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the Director of the National Economic Council, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Secretary of Commerce, the National Security Council, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall—

(A) review such strategy, programs, and resources as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy determines pertinent to United States national competitiveness in science, research, and innovation to support the national security strategy; and

(B) develop a strategy for the Federal Government to improve the national competitiveness of the United States in science, research, and innovation to support the national security strategy; and

(C) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(i) a report on the findings of the Director with respect to the review conducted under paragraph (1); and

(ii) the strategy developed or revised under paragraph (2).

(2) **Applicable Dates**—In each year, the applicable date set forth under this paragraph is as follows:

(A) In 2021, December 31, 2021.

(B) In 2022 and every year thereafter—

(i) in any year in which a new President is inaugurated, October 1 of that year; and

(ii) in any other year, the date that is 90 days after the date of the transmission to Congress in that year of the national security strategy.

(c) **Elements**—

(1) **Report**—Each report submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(i) shall include the following:

(A) an assessment of public and private investment in civilian and military science and technology and its implications for the geostrategic position and national security of the United States;

(B) a description of the prioritized economic security interests and objectives of the United States relating to science, research, and innovation and an assessment of how investment in civilian and military science and technology can advance those objectives.

(C) an assessment of how regional efforts are contributing and could contribute to the innovation capacity of the United States, including—

(i) programs run by State and local governments; and

(ii) regional factors that are contributing or could contribute positively to innovation.

(D) an assessment of barriers to competitiveness in key technology focus areas and barriers to the development and evolution of start-ups, small and mid-sized business entities, and industries in key technology focus areas.

(E) an assessment of the effectiveness of the Federal Government, federally funded research and development centers, and national labs in supporting and promoting technology commercialization and technology transfer, including an assessment of the adequacy of Federal research and development funding in promoting competitiveness and the development of new technologies.

(F) an assessment of manufacturing capacity, logistics, and supply chain dynamics of major export sectors, including access to a skilled workforce, key infrastructure, and broadband network infrastructure.

(2) **Strategy**—Each strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(ii) shall include the following:

(A) a plan to utilize available tools to address or minimize the leading threats and challenges and to take advantage of the leading opportunities, including—

(i) specific objectives, tasks, metrics, and milestones for each relevant Federal agency.

(ii) specific plans to support public and private sector investment in research, technology development, and domestic manufacturing in key technology focus areas supportive of the national economic competitiveness of the United States and to foster the prudent use of public-private partnerships.

(iii) specific plans to promote environmental stewardship and fair competition for United States workers.

(iv) a description of—

(I) how the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(3) reports the national security strategy; and

(II) how the strategy submitted under such subsection is integrated and coordinated with the most recent national defense strategy.

(v) a plan for how the United States should develop local and regional capacity for building innovation ecosystems across the nation by providing Federal support.

(vi) a plan for integrating the industrial base of the United States.

(B) an identification of additional resources, administrative or legislative action recommended to assist with the implementation of such strategy.

(d) **Form of Reports and Strategies**—Each report and strategy submitted under this section shall be in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

3. **Conforming Amendments**

(a) **SCIENTIFIC AND ADVANCED-TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 1992**—The Scientific and Advanced-Technology Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 1862a–1), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(b) **SECURE TECH ACT OF 2010**—The America COMPETES Act (Public Law 111–96; 124 Stat. 572) is amended—

(1) in section 205(b)(2) (42 U.S.C. 6614(b)(2)), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(2) in section 906(d)(1)(E) (50 U.S.C. 3718(d)(1)(E)), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(c) **AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010**—The America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–358; 124 Stat. 3862) is amended—

(1) in the subtitle heading for title VII, by striking “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “NATIONAL SCIENCE”

(2) in each of sections 502 (42 U.S.C. 6615) and 504 (42 U.S.C. 6617), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(d) **ACCELERATING INNOVATION ACT OF 2018**—The National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (51 Stat. 613; 42 U.S.C. 1862n), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(e) **AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2014**—The America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–157; 128 Stat. 1311) is amended—

(1) in subsection 4(a)(5) (42 U.S.C. 1862a(5)), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(2) in subsection 4(b) (42 U.S.C. 1862b) (42 U.S.C. 1862b), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(3) in section 10A (42 U.S.C. 1862n–1a)—

(A) in section 2(a)(5) (42 U.S.C. 1862h(a)(5)), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(B) in each of subsections (a)(4), (b), and (c)(2), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(C) in section 517 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–9)—

(A) in paragraph (1) of subsection (a), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(B) in paragraph (2) of subsection (a), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(C) in each of subsections (a)(4), (b), and (c)(2), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”

(D) in section 518 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–10), by striking “Foundation” and inserting “Technology Foundation”. S2603

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(6) in section 519 (124 Stat. 4015)—
(A) in the section heading, by inserting “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “NATIONAL SCIENCE”; and
(B) by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(7) in section 520 (42 U.S.C. 1629p–10)—
(A) by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”; and
(B) in the subsection heading of subsection (b), by striking “NSF” and inserting “NSTF”;

(8) in section 522 (42 U.S.C. 1629p–11)—
(A) in the section heading, by striking “NSF” and inserting “NSTF”; and
(B) by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(9) in section 524 (42 U.S.C. 1629p–12), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(10) in section 555(5) (20 U.S.C. 9905(5)), by inserting “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “National Science”.

(g) STEM EDUCATION ACT OF 2015.—Each of sections 2 and 3 of the STEM Education Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–124; 130 Stat. 120) is amended—

(1) in section 2 (42 U.S.C. 1862 note), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(2) in section 2(b) (42 U.S.C. 1869a), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(3) in section 102(a)(2)(A) (15 U.S.C. 8813), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(4) in the title heading for title III, by inserting “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “NATIONAL SCIENCE”; and

(5) in each of sections 301 and 302 (15 U.S.C. 8841, 8842), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”.

(h) RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AND ADVANCEMENTS FOR DYSLEXIA ACT.—The Research Excellence and Advancements for Dyslexia Act (Public Law 114–124; 130 Stat. 120) is amended by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”.

(i) AMERICAN INNOVATION AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT.—The American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2 (42 U.S.C. 1862 note), by inserting “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “National Science”; and

(2) in section 601(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 1862s–8(a)(1)), by striking “National Science” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology”;

(j) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1976.—The National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1976 (Public Law 94–96) is amended—

(1) in section 3 (42 U.S.C. 1869a), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(2) in section 6(a) (42 U.S.C. 1881a(a)), by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(k) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT, 1977.—Section 8 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, 1977 (42 U.S.C. 1889a) is amended by striking “National Science Foundation” after “National Science”.

(l) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 1978.—Section 8 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1978 (42 U.S.C. 1889b) is amended by inserting “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “National Science”.

(m) ACT OF AUGUST 25, 1959.—The first section of the Act of August 25, 1959 (42 U.S.C. 1880) is amended by inserting “AND TECHNOLOGY” after “National Science”.

(n) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 1980.—Section 9 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1980 (42 U.S.C. 1882) is amended by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”.

(o) NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005.—

(1) in section 108 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 1886a) is amended by striking “The National Science Foundation” and inserting “The National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(2) in the National Science Foundation Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1986 (42 U.S.C. 1886) is amended by inserting “and Technology” after “National Science”;

(q) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION INITIATIVE ACT.—

(1) in the table of contents in section 2, by striking the item relating to title III and inserting the following:

“TITLE III—NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION QUANTUM ACTIVITIES”;

(2) in section 102(a)(2)(A) (15 U.S.C. 8812a(a)(2)(A)), by inserting “and Technology” after “National Science”; and

(3) in section 103 (15 U.S.C. 8813), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;


(1) in section 201 (15 U.S.C. 7431), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(2) in each of sections 301 and 302 (15 U.S.C. 7441, 7442), by striking “National Science Foundation” each place the term appears and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”.

(s) CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2017.—Each of sections 105 and 402(a)(1) of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8515, 8542a(a)(1)) are amended by inserting “and Technology” after “National Science”.

(t) NATIONAL SUPERCONDUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 1988.—Section 6 of the National Superconductivity and Competitiveness Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 5250) is amended by striking “National Science Foundation” and inserting “National Science and Technology Foundation”;

(u) WEATHER RESEARCH AND FORCASTING INNOVATION ACT OF 2017.—Each of sections 105 and 402(a)(1) of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8515, 8542a(a)(1)) are amended by inserting “and Technology” after “National Science”.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the joint resolution be printed in the RECORD.