

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 4675, with an Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)**

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4675

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

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## 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

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## 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  
5 Research Act of 2018”.

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

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle G of title IX of the En-  
8 ergy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16311 et seq.) is

1 amended by inserting after section 977 the following new  
2 section:

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

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

6 “(1) enhance the scientific understanding of,  
7 and reduce uncertainties associated with, the effects  
8 of exposure to low-dose radiation; and

9 “(2) inform improved risk-assessment and risk-  
10 management methods with respect to such radiation.

11 “(b) PROGRAM COMPONENTS.—In carrying out the  
12 program required under subsection (a), the Secretary  
13 shall—

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

16 “(2) identify ongoing scientific challenges for  
17 understanding the long-term effects of ionizing radi-  
18 ation on biological systems;

19 “(3) develop a long-term strategic and  
20 prioritized basic research agenda to address such  
21 scientific challenges in coordination with other re-  
22 search efforts;

23 “(4) identify and, to the extent possible, quan-  
24 tify, potential monetary and health-related benefits  
25 to Federal agencies, the general public, industry, re-

1 search communities, and other users of information  
2 produced by such research program;

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

5 “(6) engage with other Federal agencies, re-  
6 search communities, and potential users of informa-  
7 tion produced under this section, including institu-  
8 tions concerning radiation research, medical physics,  
9 radiology, health physics, and emergency response.

10 “(c) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program,  
11 the Secretary, in coordination with the Physical Science  
12 Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology  
13 Council, shall—

14 “(1) support the directives under section 106 of  
15 the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act  
16 (42 U.S.C. 6601 note);

17 “(2) ensure that the Office of Science of the  
18 Department of Energy consults with the National  
19 Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National  
20 Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection  
21 Agency, the Department of Defense, the Nuclear  
22 Regulatory Commission, and the Department of  
23 Homeland Security;

24 “(3) advise and assist the National Science and  
25 Technology Council on policies and initiatives in ra-

1 diation biology, including enhancing scientific knowl-  
2 edge of the effects of low-dose radiation on biological  
3 systems to improve radiation risk-assessment and  
4 risk-management methods; and

5 “(4) identify opportunities to stimulate inter-  
6 national cooperation relating to low-dose radiation  
7 and leverage research and knowledge from sources  
8 outside of the United States.

9 “(d) RESEARCH PLAN.—Not later than 180 days  
10 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
11 transmit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-  
12 nology of the House of Representatives and the Committee  
13 on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a 4-year  
14 research plan that identifies and prioritizes basic research  
15 needs relating to low-dose radiation. In developing such  
16 plan, the Secretary shall incorporate the components de-  
17 scribed in subsection (b).

18 “(e) DEFINITION OF LOW-DOSE RADIATION.—In  
19 this section, the term ‘low-dose radiation’ means a radi-  
20 ation dose of less than 100 millisieverts.

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

1           “(g) FUNDING.—For purposes of carrying out this  
2 section, the Secretary is authorized to make available from  
3 funds provided to the Biological and Environmental Re-  
4 search Program—

5                   “(1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2018;

6                   “(2) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2019;

7                   “(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2020; and

8                   “(4) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2021.”.

9           (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
10 tents for subtitle G of title IX of the Energy Policy Act  
11 of 2005 is amended by inserting after the item relating  
12 to section 977 the following:

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

13 **SEC. 3. SPENDING LIMITATION.**

14           No additional funds are authorized to be appro-  
15 priated to carry out this Act and the amendments made  
16 by this Act, and this Act and such amendments shall be  
17 carried out using amounts otherwise available for such  
18 purpose.