

H.R. 1162, *Science Prize Competitions Act*

The bill was introduced by Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA) and cosponsored by Rep. Bill Johnson (R-OH), Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), and Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX).

Section 1. Short Title.

Science Prize Competitions Act

Section 2. Amendments to Prize Competitions.

This section makes changes to provisions authorizing prize competitions under the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 ([15 USC 3719](#)).

This section inserts the term “prize competition” for “prize” where appropriate, and specifies “cash prize purse” instead of “prize” where appropriate.

This section directs agency heads to publish notices of prize competitions on a publicly accessible government website, such as www.challenge.gov, instead of in the Federal Register.

This section provides agencies with the option to waive the requirement for participants in a prize competition to obtain liability insurance or demonstrate financial responsibility. A list of all waivers, including a detailed explanation for the waivers, will be included in an annual report on prize competitions from OSTP to Congress.

This section provides for the head of an agency to be able to enter into a grant, contract, cooperative agreement or other agreement with a private sector for-profit or nonprofit entity to administer the prize competition.

This section ensures private sector for-profit and nonprofit entities may provide funds for the design and administration of a prize competition or for a cash prize purse. Such funds may also consist of Federal appropriated funds. Additionally, the head of an agency may accept funds from other Federal agencies. The head of an agency may not give any special consideration to a private sector for-profit or nonprofit entity in return for a donation.