H. R. 6141

To require the Secretary of Energy to develop a report on a pilot program to site, construct, and operate micro-reactors at critical national security locations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Wilson of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. Norcross, Mr. Hudson, and Mr. Peters) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Energy to develop a report on a pilot program to site, construct, and operate micro-reactors at critical national security locations, and for other purposes.

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

3 SECTION 1. REPORT ON PILOT PROGRAM FOR MICRO-REACTORS.

5 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
Energy shall develop and submit to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Energy and Commerce in the House of Representatives and the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the Senate a report describing the requirements for, and components of, a pilot program to provide energy resilience for critical national security infrastructure at Department of Defense and Department of Energy facilities by contracting with a commercial entity to site, construct, and operate at least one licensed micro-reactor at a facility identified under the report by December 31, 2027.

(b) CONSULTATION.—As necessary to develop the report required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall consult with—

(1) the Secretary of Defense;

(2) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

(3) the Administrator of the General Services Administration.

c) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) identification of potential locations to site, construct, and operate a licensed micro-reactor at a Department of Defense or Department of Energy facility that contains critical national security infra-
structure that the Secretary of Energy determines
may not be energy resilient;

(2) assessments of different nuclear tech-
ologies to provide energy resiliency for critical na-
tional security infrastructure;

(3) a survey of potential commercial stake-
holders with which to enter into a contract under the
pilot program to construct and operate a licensed
micro-reactor;

(4) options to enter into long-term contracting
for electricity acquisition and reactor operations, in-
cluding various financial mechanisms for such pur-
pose;

(5) identification of requirements for licensed
micro-reactors to provide energy resilience to mis-
sion-critical functions at facilities identified under
paragraph (1);

(6) an estimate of the costs of the pilot pro-
gram;

(7) a timeline with milestones for the pilot pro-
gram;

(8) an analysis of the existing authority of the
Department of Energy, Nuclear Regulatory Commiss-
ion, and Department of Defense to enable the
siting, construction, and operation of a licensed micro-reactor; and

(9) recommendations for any legislative changes to the authorities analyzed under paragraph (8) necessary for the Department of Energy, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or the Department of Defense to enable the siting, construction, and operation of a licensed micro-reactor.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CRITICAL NATIONAL SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term “critical national security infrastructure” means any site or installation that the Secretary of Energy or the Secretary of Defense determines supports mission-critical functions of the national security enterprise.

(2) LICENSED.—The term “licensed” means holding a license under section 103 or 104 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

(3) MICRO-REACTOR.—The term “micro-reactor” means a nuclear reactor that has a thermal power production capacity that is not greater than 50 megawatts.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “pilot program” means the pilot program described in subsection (a).
(e) **FORM.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but, if the Secretary of Energy determines it necessary, may include a classified appendix.

(f) **LIMITATIONS.**—This Act does not authorize the Department of Energy or Department of Defense to enter into a contract with respect to the pilot program.