

Calendar No. 570

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**H. R. 4323**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 20, 2017

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

Reported by Mr. THUNE, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

AN ACT

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, 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 “Supporting Veterans
5 in STEM Careers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
2 the Director of the National Science Foundation.

3 (2) FOUNDATION.—The term “Foundation”
4 means the National Science Foundation.

5 (3) STEM.—The term “STEM” has the mean-
6 ing given the term in section 2 of the America COM-
7 PETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C.
8 6621 note).

9 (4) VETERAN.—The term “veteran” has the
10 meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38,
11 United States Code.

12 **SEC. 3. SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM EDUCATION AND**
13 **COMPUTER SCIENCE.**

14 (a) SUPPORTING VETERAN INVOLVEMENT IN SCI-
15 ENTIFIC RESEARCH AND STEM EDUCATION.—The Di-
16 rector shall, through the research and education activities
17 of the Foundation, encourage veterans to study and pur-
18 sue careers in STEM and computer science, in coordina-
19 tion with other Federal agencies that serve veterans.

20 (b) VETERAN OUTREACH PLAN.—Not later than 90
21 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director
22 shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and
23 Technology of the House of Representatives and the Com-
24 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the

1 Senate a plan for how the Foundation can enhance its out-
2 reach efforts to veterans. Such plan shall—

3 (1) report on the Foundation's existing out-
4 reach activities;

5 (2) identify the best method for the Foundation
6 to leverage existing authorities and programs to fa-
7 cilitate and support veterans in STEM careers and
8 studies, including teaching programs; and

9 (3) identify a method for the Foundation to
10 track veteran participation in research and edu-
11 cation programs of the Foundation, and describe
12 any barriers to collecting such information.

13 (c) NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD INDICATORS RE-
14 PORT.—The National Science Board shall provide in its
15 annual report on indicators of the state of science and en-
16 gineering in the United States any available and relevant
17 data on veterans in science and engineering careers or
18 education programs.

19 (d) ROBERT NOYCE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-
20 GRAM UPDATE.—Section 10 of the National Science
21 Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-
22 1) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (a)(5)—

24 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
25 “and” at the end;

1 ~~(B)~~ in subparagraph ~~(B)~~, by striking the
2 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 ~~(C)~~ by adding at the end the following:

4 “~~(C)~~ higher education programs that serve
5 or support veterans.”;

6 ~~(2)~~ in subsection ~~(b)(2)(F)~~—

7 ~~(A)~~ by striking “and students” and insert-
8 ing “; students”; and

9 ~~(B)~~ by inserting “; and veterans” before
10 the period at the end;

11 ~~(3)~~ in subsection ~~(c)(2)~~, by inserting “and vet-
12 erans” before the period at the end; and

13 ~~(4)~~ in subsection ~~(d)(2)~~, by inserting “and vet-
14 erans” before the period at the end.

15 ~~(e) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TEACHING~~
16 ~~FELLOWSHIPS AND MASTER TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS~~
17 ~~UPDATE.—Section 10A(d) of the National Science Foun-~~
18 ~~dation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-~~
19 ~~1a(d)) is amended—~~

20 ~~(1)~~ in paragraph ~~(3)(F)~~—

21 ~~(A)~~ by striking “and individuals” and in-
22 serting “; individuals”; and

23 ~~(B)~~ by inserting “; and veterans” before
24 the period at the end; and

1 (2) in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting “and vet-
2 erans” before the period at the end.

3 (f) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER
4 AND NETWORK SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS
5 UPDATE.—Section 5(a) of the Cyber Security Research
6 and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7404(a)) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and stu-
8 dents who are veterans” after “these fields”; and

9 (2) in paragraph (3)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and”
11 at the end;

12 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as
13 subparagraph (K); and

14 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the
15 following:

16 “(J) creating opportunities for veterans to
17 transition to careers in computer and network
18 security; and”.

19 (g) GRADUATE TRAINEESHIPS IN COMPUTER AND
20 NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH UPDATE.—Section
21 5(e)(6)(C) of the Cyber Security Research and Develop-
22 ment Act (15 U.S.C. 7404(e)(6)(C)) is amended by insert-
23 ing “or veterans” after “disciplines”.

24 (h) VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES STEM
25 EDUCATION INTERAGENCY SUBCOMMITTEE.—

1 (1) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—The Director of the Office of
2 Science and Technology Policy shall establish a sub-
3 committee under the Committee on STEM Edu-
4 cation of the National Science and Technology
5 Council (established under section 101 of the Amer-
6 ica ~~COMPETES~~ Reauthorization Act of 2010) to
7 coordinate Federal programs and policies for
8 transitioning and training veterans and military
9 spouses for STEM careers.

10 (2) ~~DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEE.~~—The sub-
11 committee established under paragraph (1) shall—

12 (A) coordinate Federal agency STEM out-
13 reach activities and programs for veterans and
14 military spouses; and

15 (B) develop and facilitate the implementa-
16 tion by participating agencies of a strategic
17 plan, which shall—

18 (i) specify and prioritize short- and
19 long-term objectives;

20 (ii) specify the common metrics that
21 will be used by Federal agencies to assess
22 progress toward achieving such objectives;

23 (iii) identify barriers veterans face in
24 recentering the workforce, including a lack
25 of formal STEM education, career guid-

1 ance, and the process of transferring mili-
2 tary credits and skills to college credits;

3 (iv) identify barriers military spouses
4 face in establishing careers in STEM
5 fields;

6 (v) describe the approaches that each
7 participating agency will take to address
8 administratively the barriers described in
9 clauses (iii) and (iv); and

10 (vi) identify any barriers that require
11 Federal or State legislative or regulatory
12 changes in order to be addressed.

13 (3) DUTIES OF OSTP.—The Director of the Of-
14 fice of Science and Technology Policy shall encour-
15 age and monitor the efforts of the Federal agencies
16 participating in the subcommittee to ensure that the
17 strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B) is
18 developed and executed effectively and that the ob-
19 jectives of such strategic plan are met.

20 (4) REPORT.—The Director of the Office of
21 Science and Technology Policy shall—

22 (A) not later than 1 year after the date of
23 enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the
24 strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B);
25 and

1 (B) include in the annual report required
2 by section 101(d) of the America COMPETES
3 Reauthorization Act a description of any
4 progress made in carrying out the activities de-
5 scribed in paragraph (2)(B) of this subsection.

6 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

7 *This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Veterans*
8 *in STEM Careers Act”.*

9 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

10 *In this Act:*

11 (1) *DIRECTOR.*—*The term “Director” means the*
12 *Director of the National Science Foundation.*

13 (2) *FOUNDATION.*—*The term “Foundation”*
14 *means the National Science Foundation.*

15 (3) *STEM.*—*The term “STEM” has the meaning*
16 *given the term in section 2 of the America COM-*
17 *PETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 6621*
18 *note).*

19 (4) *VETERAN.*—*The term “veteran” has the*
20 *meaning given the term in section 101 of title 38,*
21 *United States Code.*

22 **SEC. 3. SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM EDUCATION AND**
23 **COMPUTER SCIENCE.**

24 (a) *SUPPORTING VETERAN INVOLVEMENT IN SCI-*
25 *ENTIFIC RESEARCH AND STEM EDUCATION.*—*The Director*

1 *shall, through the research and education activities of the*
2 *Foundation, encourage veterans to study and pursue careers*
3 *in STEM and computer science, in coordination with other*
4 *Federal agencies that serve veterans.*

5 **(b) VETERAN OUTREACH PLAN.**—*Not later than 180*
6 *days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director*
7 *shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-*
8 *nology of the House of Representatives and the Committee*
9 *on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate*
10 *a plan for how the Foundation can enhance its outreach*
11 *efforts to veterans. Such plan shall—*

12 (1) *report on the Foundation’s existing outreach*
13 *activities;*

14 (2) *identify the best method for the Foundation*
15 *to leverage existing authorities and programs to fa-*
16 *cilitate and support veterans in STEM careers and*
17 *studies, including teaching programs;*

18 (3) *include options for how the Foundation will,*
19 *to the extent practicable, track veteran participation*
20 *in research and education programs of the Founda-*
21 *tion; and*

22 (4) *describe any barriers to collecting the infor-*
23 *mation described in paragraph (3).*

24 **(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD INDICATORS RE-**
25 **PORT.**—*The National Science Board shall provide in its an-*

1 *nual report on indicators of the state of science and engi-*
 2 *neering in the United States any available and relevant*
 3 *data on veterans in science and engineering careers or edu-*
 4 *cation programs.*

5 *(d) ROBERT NOYCE TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PRO-*
 6 *GRAM UPDATE.—Section 10 of the National Science Foun-*
 7 *ation Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n–1) is*
 8 *amended—*

9 *(1) in subsection (a)(5)—*

10 *(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and”*
 11 *at the end;*

12 *(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the*
 13 *period at the end and inserting “; and”; and*

14 *(C) by adding at the end the following:*

15 *“(C) higher education programs that serve*
 16 *or support veterans.”; and*

17 *(2) in subsection (b)(2)(F)—*

18 *(A) by striking “and students” and insert-*
 19 *ing “, students”; and*

20 *(B) by inserting “, and veterans” before the*
 21 *period at the end.*

22 *(e) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TEACHING FEL-*
 23 *LOWSHIPS AND MASTER TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS UP-*
 24 *DATE.—Section 10A(d) of the National Science Foundation*

1 *Authorization Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1862n-1a(d)) is*
2 *amended—*

3 *(1) in paragraph (3)(F)—*

4 *(A) by striking “and individuals” and in-*
5 *serting “, individuals”; and*

6 *(B) by inserting “, and veterans” before the*
7 *period at the end; and*

8 *(2) in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting “and vet-*
9 *erans” before the period at the end.*

10 *(f) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COMPUTER AND*
11 *NETWORK SECURITY CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS UP-*
12 *DATE.—Section 5(a) of the Cyber Security Research and*
13 *Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7404(a)) is amended—*

14 *(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and students*
15 *who are veterans” after “these fields”; and*

16 *(2) in paragraph (3)—*

17 *(A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and”*
18 *at the end;*

19 *(B) by redesignating subparagraph (J) as*
20 *subparagraph (K); and*

21 *(C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the*
22 *following:*

23 *“(J) creating opportunities for veterans to*
24 *transition to careers in computer and network*
25 *security; and”.*

1 (g) *GRADUATE TRAINEESHIPS IN COMPUTER AND*
2 *NETWORK SECURITY RESEARCH UPDATE.*—Section
3 *5(c)(6)(C) of the Cyber Security Research and Development*
4 *Act (15 U.S.C. 7404(c)(6)(C)) is amended by inserting “or*
5 *veterans” after “disciplines”.*

6 (h) *VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES STEM EDU-*
7 *CATION INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.*—

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Director of the Office of*
9 *Science and Technology Policy shall establish or des-*
10 *ignate an interagency working group to coordinate*
11 *Federal programs and policies for transitioning and*
12 *training veterans and military spouses for STEM ca-*
13 *reers.*

14 (2) *DUTIES OF INTERAGENCY WORKING*
15 *GROUP.*—*The interagency working group under para-*
16 *graph (1) shall—*

17 (A) *coordinate any Federal agency STEM*
18 *outreach activities and programs for veterans*
19 *and military spouses; and*

20 (B) *develop and facilitate the implementa-*
21 *tion by participating agencies of a strategic*
22 *plan, which shall—*

23 (i) *specify and prioritize short- and*
24 *long-term objectives;*

1 (ii) specify the common metrics that
2 will be used by Federal agencies to assess
3 progress toward achieving such objectives;

4 (iii) identify barriers veterans face in
5 reentering the workforce, including a lack of
6 formal STEM education, career guidance,
7 and the process of transferring military
8 credits and skills to college credits;

9 (iv) identify barriers military spouses
10 face in establishing careers in STEM fields;

11 (v) describe the approaches that each
12 participating agency will take to address
13 administratively the barriers described in
14 clauses (iii) and (iv); and

15 (vi) identify any barriers that require
16 Federal or State legislative or regulatory
17 changes in order to be addressed.

18 (3) *DUTIES OF OSTP.*—The Director of the Office
19 of Science and Technology Policy shall encourage and
20 monitor the efforts of the Federal agencies partici-
21 pating in the interagency working group to ensure
22 that the strategic plan required under paragraph
23 (2)(B) is developed and executed effectively and that
24 the objectives of such strategic plan are met.

1 (4) *REPORT.*—*The Director of the Office of*
2 *Science and Technology Policy shall—*

3 (A) *not later than 1 year after the date of*
4 *enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the*
5 *strategic plan required under paragraph (2)(B);*
6 *and*

7 (B) *include in the annual report required*
8 *by section 101(d) of the America COMPETES*
9 *Reauthorization Act a description of any*
10 *progress made in carrying out the activities de-*
11 *scribed in paragraph (2)(B) of this subsection.*

12 (5) *SUNSET.*—*The interagency working group*
13 *under paragraph (1) shall terminate on the date that*
14 *is 5 years after the date that it is established.*

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115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4323

AN ACT

To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

Reported with an amendment