

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7275

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a National Security Innovation Network, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2020

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. MITCHELL) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a National Security Innovation Network, 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 “National Security In-
5 novation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL SECURITY INNOVATION NETWORK.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 139 of title 10,
8 United States Code, is amended by inserting after section
9 2358b the following new section:

1 **“§ 2358c. National Security Innovation Network**

2 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense
3 shall establish a program office to be known as the ‘Na-
4 tional Security Innovation Network’ (referred to in this
5 section as the ‘Network’). The Secretary shall establish
6 the Network within the Office of the Under Secretary of
7 Defense for Research and Engineering or within the office
8 of another principal staff assistant to the Secretary.

9 “(b) HEAD OF NETWORK.—The head of the Network
10 shall be an individual designated by the Secretary of De-
11 fense.

12 “(c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the
13 Network shall be—

14 “(1) to maintain a network throughout the
15 United States that connects the Department of De-
16 fense to academic institutions, commercial accelera-
17 tors and incubators, commercial innovation hubs,
18 and nonprofit entities with missions and capabilities
19 relating to national security innovation;

20 “(2) to expand the national security innovation
21 base through integrated, project-based problem solv-
22 ing that leads to novel concept and solution develop-
23 ment for the Department and facilitates dual-use
24 ventures with national security and commercial util-
25 ity;

1 “(3) to work in coordination with the Under
2 Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness,
3 other principal staff assistants within the Office of
4 the Secretary, and the Secretaries of the military de-
5 partments to create new pathways and models of na-
6 tional security service that facilitate term, tem-
7 porary, and permanent employment within the De-
8 partment for—

9 “(A) students and graduates in the fields
10 of science, technology, arts, engineering, and
11 mathematics;

12 “(B) early-career and mid-career tech-
13 nologists; and

14 “(C) entrepreneurs for purposes of project-
15 based work;

16 “(4) to accelerate the development of innovative
17 solutions to complex problems, particularly through
18 dual-use ventures, and facilitate partnerships be-
19 tween early stage ventures and the Department of
20 Defense, by increasing transparency, and access to
21 the Department for early stage ventures with the
22 goal of improved acquisition and procurement out-
23 comes;

24 “(5) to generate novel concepts and solutions to
25 problems and requirements articulated by entities

1 within the Department through programs that com-
2 bine end users from the Department, students and
3 faculty from academic institutions, and the early-
4 stage venture community;

5 “(6) to establish physical locations throughout
6 the United States through which the Network will
7 connect with academic partners and private funding
8 sources for the purposes of carrying out the respon-
9 sibilities described in paragraphs (1) through (5);
10 and

11 “(7) to carry out such other activities as the
12 Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the head
13 of the Network, determines to be relevant to such
14 responsibilities.

15 “(d) AUTHORITIES.—In carrying out this section, the
16 Secretary of Defense may use the following authorities:

17 “(1) Section 1599g of title 10, United States
18 Code, relating to public-private talent exchanges.

19 “(2) Section 2368 of such title, relating to Cen-
20 ters for Science, Technology, and Engineering Part-
21 nerships.

22 “(3) Section 2374a of such title, relating to
23 prizes for advanced technology achievements.

24 “(4) Section 2521 of such title, relating to the
25 Manufacturing Technology Program.

1 “(5) Section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler Tech-
2 nology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a)
3 and section 6305 of title 31, United States Code, re-
4 lating to cooperative research and development
5 agreements.

6 “(6) Such other authorities as the Secretary
7 considers appropriate.

8 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
9 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
10 \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2021 and each fiscal year
11 thereafter.”.

12 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
13 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
14 after the item relating to section 2358b the following new
15 item:

 “2358c. National Security Innovation Network.”.

16 **SEC. 3. IMPLEMENTATION.**

17 (a) TRANSFERS FROM OTHER DOD ELEMENTS.—
18 The Secretary of Defense may transfer to the National
19 Security Innovation Network established under section
20 2358c of title 10, United States Code (as added by sub-
21 section (a)), such personnel, resources, and functions of
22 other organizations and elements of the Department of
23 Defense as the Secretary considers appropriate to carry
24 out such section.

25 (b) PLAN REQUIRED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary of Defense shall submit to the congressional
4 defense committees a plan for establishing the Na-
5 tional Security Innovation Network under section
6 2358c of title 10, United States Code (as added by
7 subsection (a)).

8 (2) ELEMENTS.—The plan required under
9 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

10 (A) Plans for the funding, integration, and
11 evaluation of the Network, including plans
12 for—

13 (i) future funding and administrative
14 support of the Network;

15 (ii) integration of the Network into
16 the programming, planning, budgeting,
17 and execution process of the Department
18 of Defense;

19 (iii) integration of the Network with
20 the other programs and initiatives within
21 the Department that have missions relat-
22 ing to innovation and outreach to the
23 early-stage venture and academic commu-
24 nities; and

1 (iv) performance indicators by which
2 the program will be assessed and evalu-
3 ated.

4 (B) A description of any additional au-
5 thorities the Secretary may require to effec-
6 tively carry out section 2358c of title 10,
7 United States Code (as added by subsection
8 (a)).

9 (C) Plans for any transfers the Secretary
10 intends to carry out under subsection (a) of this
11 section.

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