

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7866

To direct the Secretary of Defense to award grants and carry out other activities to develop alternatives to aqueous film-forming foam, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2020

Ms. DEAN (for herself, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. KIM, Mr. KILDEE, and Ms. HOULAHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to award grants and carry out other activities to develop alternatives to aqueous film-forming foam, 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 “PFAS Free Foam Re-
5 search and Development Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE**
2 **TO AQUEOUS FILM-FORMING FOAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, acting
4 through the National Institute of Standards and Tech-
5 nology and in consultation with appropriate stakeholders
6 and manufacturers, research institutions, and other Fed-
7 eral agencies, shall award grants and carry out other ac-
8 tivities to—

9 (1) promote and advance the research and de-
10 velopment of additional alternatives to aqueous film-
11 forming foam (in this section referred to as
12 “AFFF”) containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl sub-
13 stances (in this section referred to as “PFAS”) to
14 facilitate the development of a military specification
15 and subsequent fielding of a PFAS-free fire-fighting
16 foam;

17 (2) advance the use of green and sustainable
18 chemistry for a fluorine-free alternative to AFFF;

19 (3) increase opportunities for sharing best prac-
20 tices within the research and development sector
21 with respect to AFFF;

22 (4) assist in the testing of potential alternatives
23 to AFFF; and

24 (5) provide guidelines on priorities with respect
25 to an alternative to AFFF.

1 (b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out
2 the program required under subsection (a), the Secretary
3 shall—

4 (1) take into consideration the different uses of
5 AFFF and the priorities of the Department of De-
6 fense in finding an alternative;

7 (2) prioritize green and sustainable chemicals
8 that do not pose a threat to public health or the en-
9 vironment; and

10 (3) use and leverage research from existing De-
11 partment of Defense programs.

12 (c) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to Con-
13 gress a report on—

14 (1) the priorities and actions taken with respect
15 to finding an alternative to AFFF and the imple-
16 mentation of such priorities; and

17 (2) any alternatives the Secretary has denied,
18 and the reason for any such denial.

19 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—This section shall be carried
20 out using amounts authorized to be available for the Stra-
21 tegic Environmental Research and Development Program.

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