

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5770

To establish biotechnology workforce training programs for Department of Defense personnel, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2025

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

A BILL

To establish biotechnology workforce training programs for
Department of Defense personnel, 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 Bio-
5 technology Workforce Training Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BIOTECHNOLOGY**
7 **WORKFORCE TRAINING.**

8 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than one year after
9 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of

1 Defense shall establish and carry out a training pro-
2 gram—

3 (1) for members of the covered Armed Forces,
4 civilian employees of the Department of Defense,
5 and contractors of such Department whose duties
6 the Secretary determines include—

7 (A) creating or deploying novel biotech-
8 nologies;

9 (B) analyzing, preparing for, or responding
10 to biological threats; or

11 (C) planning, research and development,
12 engineering, or testing and evaluation of sys-
13 tems (including quality control and assurance,
14 procurement and contracting, logistics, and cost
15 estimating) regarding biotechnology; and

16 (2) on biotechnology and other relevant critical
17 and emerging technologies.

18 (b) CONSULTATION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall consult
20 with leadership and workforce training managers in
21 the Department to develop and implement such
22 training program and identify the individuals de-
23 scribed in subsection (a) based on—

24 (A) the needs and priorities of the Depart-
25 ment; and

1 (B) the relevance of the training to the in-
2 dividuals' positions.

3 (2) MATERIAL.—The material covered in the
4 training programs shall be customized by Depart-
5 ment leadership to align with specific needs and mis-
6 sion requirements.

7 (3) SKILLS.—The Secretary shall define the es-
8 sential skills for biotechnology personnel to better
9 understand what Federal personnel should undergo
10 training and how to customize training for groups.

11 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The training program estab-
13 lished under this section shall, at a minimum, in-
14 clude information on—

15 (A) the fundamental science underlying
16 biotechnology, artificial intelligence and other
17 relevant critical and emerging technologies;

18 (B) concepts relating to the technological
19 features of biotechnology systems;

20 (C) applications of biotechnology in de-
21 fense, health, agriculture, energy, environment,
22 and other relevant areas;

23 (D) the ways in which artificial intel-
24 ligence, quantum computing, and other tech-
25 nologies are leveraged to advance biotechnology;

1 (E) mechanisms by which the Federal Gov-
2 ernment supports, funds, purchases, and de-
3 ploys biotechnology and its applications;

4 (F) ways in which the Federal Government
5 can benefit from biotechnology;

6 (G) ethical, social, and legal aspects of bio-
7 technology including ways of incorporating a
8 wide range of stakeholder perspectives through-
9 out research and innovation cycles;

10 (H) ways to mitigate the risks described in
11 previous subparagraphs, including efforts to
12 create and identify biotechnologies that are reli-
13 able, safe, and trustworthy; and

14 (I) future trends in biotechnology, includ-
15 ing intersections with artificial intelligence,
16 quantum computing, autonomous systems, ro-
17 botics, advanced manufacturing, and other rel-
18 evant technologies, as well as trends for eco-
19 nomic and national security, and innovation.

20 (2) PARTICIPATION.—Any individual described
21 under subsection (b)(1) shall complete training
22 under this section annually.

23 (3) INTERACTIVE.—The Secretary shall ensure
24 interactive learning with scholars and experts from
25 private, public and nonprofit sectors is included

1 under the training programs. The Secretary shall
2 provide access to courses through institutions of pro-
3 fessional military education, such as the National
4 Defense University.

5 (4) UPDATES.—The training programs estab-
6 lished under this section shall be updated each year
7 to review and cover advances in biotechnology and
8 its convergence with other critical and emerging
9 technologies.

10 (5) CONTINUING EDUCATION.—The Secretary
11 shall update the training programs established under
12 this section to provide continuing technology edu-
13 cation for individuals described in subsection (a) and
14 include requirements for refresher training on the
15 latest advances in biotechnology science, laboratory
16 work, equipment and software.

17 (d) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS.—The Secretary
18 shall establish mechanisms to measure participation in
19 training programs required under this section, and to re-
20 ceive and consider feedback from program participants to
21 improve training.

22 (e) REPORT.—Not later than six months after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-
24 mit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate
25 and House of Representatives a report that includes a

1 plan to establish and implement the training programs re-
2 quired under this section.

3 (f) SUNSET.—This section and the training programs
4 required to be carried out by this section shall terminate
5 on the date that is five years after such programs are es-
6 tablished under subsection (a).

7 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) The term “artificial intelligence” has the
9 meaning given that term in section 5002 of the Na-
10 tional Artificial Intelligence Initiative Act of 2020
11 (division E of Public Law 116–283).

12 (2) The term “covered Armed Force” means
13 the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Space
14 Force.

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