

S 2817

National Science Foundation Doubling Act

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jul 29, 2002

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 734.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 734. (Oct 16, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/2817>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bond, Christopher S. [R-MO]	R · MO		Jul 29, 2002
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		Jul 29, 2002
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 29, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Oct 16, 2002
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Reported By	Sep 18, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
107 HR 4664	Related bill	Dec 19, 2002: Became Public Law No: 107-368.

National Science Foundation Doubling Act - (Sec. 4) Specifies goals under National Science Foundation policy objectives of: (1) strengthening the Nation's lead in science and technology; (2) increasing overall workforce skills; and (3) strengthening innovation.

(Sec. 5) Authorizes appropriations to the National Science Foundation (NSF), increasing each year for FY 2003 (\$5.5 billion) through 2007 (\$9.8 billion), with specific allocations for: (1) research and related activities; (2) education and human resources; (3) major research equipment and facilities construction; (4) salaries and expenses; and (5) the Office of Inspector General.

(Sec. 6) Requires the NSF Director (Director) to continue the following initiatives: (1) an information technology research program in areas related to cybersecurity, terascale computing systems, software, networking, scalability, communications, and data management; (2) a nanoscale science and engineering research and education program; (3) a plant genome research program; (4) a science and technology innovation partnerships program; (5) a mathematics and science education partnership program (establishes specified competitive grant and formula grant programs); (6) a program of multi-year awards to enable institutions of higher education to provide future math and science teachers with scholarships, stipends, and training toward teacher certification or alternative certification; (7) a multi-year, competitive grant program to increase the number of associate's or bachelor's degree students in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology; (8) a competitive grant program for State or local educational agencies that supports the planning and implementation of agency-wide secondary school reform initiatives designed to promote scientific and technological literacy; (9) the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; and (10) a comprehensive program designed to advance the goals of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act.

(Sec. 7) Requires the Director to award competitive grants for: (1) research in cognitive science, education, and related fields associated with the science of learning and teaching mathematics and science; and (2) applying research results to improve teaching and student achievement levels in low-performing elementary and secondary schools. Requires at least one grant to include a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of current mathematics and science teaching practices. Requires the Director to: (1) apply the results to developing educational practice models and assess their success; and (2) coordinate with the Secretary of Education in devising an agenda for carrying out such research and disseminating the results and guidance to elementary and secondary school teachers.

(Sec. 8) Requires the Director to determine whether any existing NSF programs duplicate programs authorized under this Act, to terminate or merge any existing duplicative program, and not to establish any new duplicative program. Requires the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to review NSF education programs to ensure compliance with such provisions and report to specified congressional committees.

(Sec. 9) Requires the: (1) Director to assess and report to specified congressional committees on the major research instrumentation program; and (2) Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to assess the need for, develop, and report to such committees on an interagency program to establish university-based centers for interdisciplinary research and advanced instrumentation development.

(Sec. 10) Requires the Director to: (1) develop, submit to the National Science Board for approval, and report to Congress on a list indicating the relative priority for funding under the major research equipment and facilities construction account of each project the Board has approved for inclusion in a future budget request; and (2) include in the NSF annual budget request to Congress a plan for the proposed construction of, and repair and upgrades to, national research facilities, including full life-cycle cost information. Prohibits the management of any national research facility

project by an NSF temporary appointee. Requires the Board to: (1) explicitly approve any project before funds may be obligated; and (2) report to specified congressional committees on any delegation of authority related to funding for any project.

(Sec. 11) Authorizes NSF to designate persons authorized to have access to identifiable information for statistical and research purposes only. Subjects violators of NSF confidentiality provisions to a \$10,000 fine and five years imprisonment.

(Sec. 14) Requires the Director to transmit to specified congressional committees a report describing the impact that increasing the average grant size and duration would have on minority serving institutions and on institutions located in States where NSF's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research is carrying out activities.

Provides for the Chair of the Board to report to such committees on proposed procedures under which it could conduct its meetings so as to ensure greater public access to its deliberations.

(Sec. 15) Requires the Director to annually evaluate a random sample of grants, contracts, or other awards made pursuant to this Act and provide for disseminating the results to the public.

(Sec. 16) Instructs the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering to include as part of the first biennial report on its activities transmitted to Congress after the date of the enactment of this Act: (1) a summary of its findings over the previous ten years; (2) a description of past and present NSF policies and activities to encourage full participation of women, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities in science, mathematics, and engineering fields; and (3) an assessment of trends of participation and of the success of NSF policies and activities, along with proposals for new strategies or the broadening of existing successful strategies, toward facilitating the goals of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 16, 2002:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Hollings with an amendment. With written report No. 107-317.
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Hollings with an amendment. With written report No. 107-317.
- **Oct 16, 2002:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 734.
- **Sep 19, 2002:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Sep 18, 2002:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Reported by Senator Kennedy with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 107-291.
- **Sep 18, 2002:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Reported by Senator Kennedy with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 107-291.
- **Sep 18, 2002:** Referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation for a period not to exceed 30 days of session pursuant to the order of March 3, 1988.
- **Sep 5, 2002:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jul 29, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 29, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S7500-7501)
- **Jul 29, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.