

S 2945

21st Century Nanotechnology Research and Development Act

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Sep 17, 2002

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 772.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 772. (Nov 20, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/2945>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]

Party: Democratic • State: OR • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Allen, George [R-VA]	R · VA		Sep 17, 2002
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Sep 17, 2002
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Sep 17, 2002
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 17, 2002
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Sep 20, 2002
Sen. Warner, John [R-VA]	R · VA		Nov 15, 2002
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Nov 20, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Nov 20, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

21st Century Nanotechnology Research and Development Act - (Sec. 4) Directs the President to establish a National Nanotechnology Research Program. Requires such Program, through appropriate Federal agencies, councils, and the National Coordination Office, to: (1) establish goals, priorities, grand challenges (fundamental problems in science and engineering that will require the application of nanotechnology), and metrics for evaluating Federal nanotechnology research, development, and other activities; (2) invest in Federal research and development (R&D) programs in nanotechnology and related sciences to achieve those goals; and (3) provide for coordination of Federal nanotechnology activities.

Requires the Program, through its participating agencies, to develop, fund, and manage Federal programs concerning: (1) long-term basic nanoscience and engineering research; (2) essential grand challenges and interdisciplinary research and education teams; (3) interdisciplinary nanotechnology research centers (provides for funding ten new centers); (4) research infrastructure and equipment (including the employment of underutilized manufacturing facilities in areas of high unemployment as production engineering and research test-beds for micron-scale technologies); (5) the Center for Ethical, Societal, Educational, Legal, and Workforce Issues Related to Nanotechnology (to be established by the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF)); and (6) technology transition.

(Sec. 5) Directs the National Science and Technology Council to oversee the planning, management, and coordination of the Program, including establishment of an Information Services and Applications Council to promote access to and early application of the technologies, innovations, and expertise derived from nanotechnology R&D program activities to Federal agency missions and systems and to U.S. industry.

Directs the President to establish a National Nanotechnology Advisory Panel (composed of up to 20 individuals who are not Federal employees) and a National Nanotechnology Coordination Office.

Provides for the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a triennial evaluation of the Program and a biennial study of the relative position of the United States compared to other nations with respect to nanotechnology R&D.

(Sec. 6) Authorizes appropriations to carry out responsibilities under this Act to: (1) NSF; (2) the Department of Energy; (3) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; (4) the National Institutes of Health; (5) the National Institute of Standards and Technology; (6) the Environmental Protection Agency; and (7) the Department of Justice.

(Sec. 7) Provides for the Program to monitor U.S. standing in key research fields that support technological innovation.

Requires the NSF Director to: (1) collect and disseminate studies on the societal, ethical, educational, and workforce implications of nanotechnology; and (2) collect data on the size of the anticipated nanotechnology workforce needed and assess the adequacy of the trained talent pool to fill such needs.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 20, 2002:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Hollings without amendment. With written report No. 107-350.
- **Nov 20, 2002:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Hollings without amendment. With written report No. 107-350.
- **Nov 20, 2002:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 772.
- **Sep 19, 2002:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Sep 17, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 17, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8678-8679)
- **Sep 17, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S8679-8683)