

## HR 1867

National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007

**Congress:** 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications

**Introduced:** Apr 17, 2007

**Current Status:** Hearing Held by Subcommittee on Research and Science Education Prior to Introduction and Referral (M

**Latest Action:** Hearing Held by Subcommittee on Research and Science Education Prior to Introduction and Referral (March 29, 2007). (May 6, 2008)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/1867>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Baird, Brian [D-WA-3]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bilbray, Brian P. [R-CA-50]	R · CA		Apr 17, 2007
Rep. Ehlers, Vernon J. [R-MI-3]	R · MI		Apr 17, 2007
Rep. Gordon, Bart [D-TN-6]	D · TN		Apr 17, 2007
Rep. Hill, Baron P. [D-IN-9]	D · IN		Apr 17, 2007
Rep. Hooley, Darlene [D-OR-5]	D · OR		Apr 17, 2007
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Apr 17, 2007
Rep. Chandler, Ben [D-KY-6]	D · KY		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Hall, Ralph M. [R-TX-4]	R · TX		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Lampson, Nick [D-TX-22]	D · TX		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Reichert, David G. [R-WA-8]	R · WA		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Rothman, Steven R. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Udall, Mark [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Apr 30, 2007
Rep. Wu, David [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Apr 30, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	May 6, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 2272	Related bill	<b>Sep 8, 2008:</b> Hearing Held by Subcommittee on Energy and Environment Prior to Introduction and Referral ( April 26, 2007)..
110 HRES 349	Procedurally related	<b>May 2, 2007:</b> Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2007 - (Sec. 3) Authorizes appropriations to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for FY2008-FY2010, with specific allocations for: (1) research and related activities; (2) education and human resources; (3) major research equipment and facilities construction; (4) agency operations and award management; (5) the Office of the National Science Board; and (6) the Office of Inspector General.

Sets minimum and maximum amounts of awards under the Major Research Instrumentation program.

Permits, in addition to the acquisition of instrumentation and equipment, funds made available by awards under the Major Research Instrumentation program to be used to support the operations and maintenance of such instrumentation and equipment.

Requires an institution of higher education receiving an award under such program to provide at least 30% of the cost from private or non-federal sources. Exempts institutions of higher education that are not Ph.D-granting institutions from such cost sharing requirement and allows the Director of the NSF (the Director) to reduce or waive such requirement for: (1) certain institutions that are not ranked among the top 100 institutions receiving federal research and development funding; and (2) consortia of institutions of higher education that include at least one institution that is not a Ph.D-granting institution.

Requires the continuation of programs in support of undergraduate education, including those authorized under the provisions of section 17 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (relating to undergraduate science, mathematics, engineering, and technology education reform). Increases funding for these programs in proportion to the increase in the total amount appropriated to NSF in any year for which appropriations are authorized by this Act.

Revises the selection process for awards that require the submission of preproposals and that also limit the number of preproposals. Requires the National Science Board to: (1) assess the effects on institutions of higher education of NSF policies regarding the imposition of limitations on the number of proposals that may be submitted by a single institution for programs supported by NSF; (2) determine whether current policies are well justified and appropriate for the types of programs that limit the number of proposal submissions; and (3) summarize in a report its findings and any recommendations regarding changes to the current policy on the restriction of proposal submissions.

Requires the Director to increase funding for the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program in proportion to the increase in the total amount appropriated to the NSF for research and related activities in any year for which appropriations are authorized by this Act.

Requires the Director: (1) as part of Informal Science Education activities, to support activities to create informal educational materials, exhibits, and multimedia presentations relevant to global warming, climate science, and greenhouse gas reduction strategies; and (2) as part of Discovery Research K-12 activities, to support the development of K-12 educational materials relevant to global warming, climate science, and greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

(Sec. 4) Requires the continuation of the program of Centers for Research on Learning and Education Improvement as established in section 11 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 (relating to the establishment of such Centers).

Amends the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to provide for the awarding of grants to eligible nonprofit organizations and their consortia to establish such Centers.

(Sec. 5) Directs the National Science Board to evaluate: (1) the role of NSF in supporting interdisciplinary research, including through the Major Research Instrumentation program, the effectiveness of NSF's efforts in providing information to the scientific community about opportunities for funding of interdisciplinary research proposals, and the process through which interdisciplinary proposals are selected for support; and (2) the effectiveness of NSF's efforts to engage undergraduate students in research experiences in interdisciplinary settings, including through the Research in Undergraduate Institutions program and the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program. Requires the Board to provide the results of its evaluation, including a recommendation for the proportion of the NSF's research and related activities funding that should be allocated for interdisciplinary research.

(Sec. 6) Requires the Director to carry out a pilot program to award one-year grants to individuals to assist them in improving research proposals that were previously submitted to NSF but not selected for funding. Requires that such grants be used to enable individuals to resubmit updated research proposals for review by NSF through NSF's competitive merit review process. Permits using funds made available under this section for the generation of new data and the performance of additional analysis.

Requires the Director to make awards under this section based on the advice of program officers of the NSF.

Allows the Director to carry out this section through the Small Grants for Exploratory Research program.

Directs the National Science Board to conduct a review and assessment of the pilot program.

(Sec. 7) Requires the Director, in evaluating research proposals under NSF's broader impacts criterion, to give special consideration to proposals that involve partnerships between academic researchers and industrial scientists and engineers that address research areas that have been identified as having high importance for economic competitiveness, such as nanotechnology. Instructs the Director to encourage research proposals from institutions of higher education that involve partnerships with businesses and organizations representing businesses in fields that have been identified as having high importance for economic competitiveness and that include input on the research agenda from and cost-sharing by the industry partners. Requires the Director to report on the impact of the broader impacts grant criterion used by NSF.

(Sec. 8) Instructs the Director to: (1) require that all grant applications that include funding to support postdoctoral researchers include a description of mentoring activities; and (2) ensure that this part of the application is evaluated under NSF's broader impacts merit review criterion. Instructs the Director to require that annual reports and the final report for research grants that include funding to support postdoctoral researchers include a description of the mentoring activities provided to such researchers.

(Sec. 9) Instructs the Director to require that each institution that applies for financial assistance from NSF for science and engineering research or education describe in its grant proposal a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to participating undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers .

(Sec. 10) Instructs the Director to ensure that all final project reports and citations of published research documents resulting from research funded, in whole or in part, by the NSF are made available to the public in a timely manner and through NSF's website.

(Sec. 11) Makes an investigator supported under a NSF award, whom the Director determines has failed to comply with the provisions of section 734 (concerning the dissemination and sharing of research results) of the Foundation Grant

Policy Manual, ineligible for a future award under any NSF supported program or activity. Allows the Director to restore the eligibility of such an investigator on the basis of the investigator's subsequent compliance with such provisions and with such other terms and conditions as the Director may impose.

(Sec. 12) Requires the Director to annually evaluate all NSF's grants that are scheduled to expire within one year and that primarily: (1) meet the objectives of the Science and Engineering Equal Opportunity Act; or (2) provide teacher professional development. Allows the Director, for grants that are identified and that are deemed by the Director to be successful in meeting the objectives of the initial grant solicitation, to extend those grants for up to three additional years beyond their scheduled expiration without the requirement for a recompetition. Permits the extension of such grants for an additional three years as specified. Requires the Director to submit a report that: (1) lists the grants extended; and (2) provides recommendations regarding the extension of such authority to programs other than those specified in this section.

(Sec. 13) Requires the National Science Board to: (1) evaluate certain impacts of its policy to eliminate cost sharing for research grants and cooperative agreements for existing and new programs involving industry participation; and (2) report the results of such evaluation.

(Sec. 14) Amends the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 to permit NSF to receive and use funds donated to NSF for specific prize competitions.

(Sec. 15) Requires the National Science Board to evaluate the appropriateness of: (1) the requirement that funding for detailed design work and other preconstruction activities for major research equipment and facilities come exclusively from the sponsoring research division rather than being available from the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction account; and (2) NSF's policies for allocation of costs for, and oversight of, maintenance and operation of major research equipment and facilities. Requires the Board to report on the results of such evaluations and on any recommendations for modifying the current policies related to allocation of funding for such equipment and facilities.

Requires that plans for proposed construction, repair, and upgrades to national research facilities include estimates of the total project cost and the source of funds for major upgrades of facilities in support of Antarctic research programs.

Requires the Director to transmit: (1) a specified report cataloging all elementary and secondary school, informal, and undergraduate educational programs and activities supported through appropriations for research and related activities; and (2) along with the FY2011 budget request, a report listing the funding success rates and distribution of awards for the Research in Undergraduate Institutions program.

Requires the Director, within 60 days of enactment of legislation providing for the annual appropriation of funds for NSF, to submit a plan for the allocation of education and human resources funds authorized by this Act for the corresponding fiscal year, including any funds from within the research and related activities account used to support activities that primarily improve education or broaden participation.

(Sec. 16) Amends the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002 to require: (1) the Inspector General of NSF to conduct triennial audits (currently, annual audits) of the compliance by the National Science Board with the requirements specified under the Act for open meetings; (2) the Board to maintain the General Counsel's certificate, the presiding officer's statement, and a transcript or recording of any closed meeting for at least three years after such meeting; and (3) appointment of technical and professional personnel on leave of absence from academic, industrial, or research institutions for a limited term and such operations and support staff members (currently, such clerical staff members) as may be necessary.

Amends the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1975 to increase the number of Alan T. Waterman Awards that may be made in any one fiscal year to three.

(Sec. 17) Requires rendering of National Science Board reports to the President and Congress (currently, rendered to the President for submission to Congress).

(Sec. 18) Directs NSF to arrange with the National Academy of Sciences for a report to Congress about barriers to increasing the number of underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields and to identify strategies for bringing more underrepresented minorities into the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics workforce.

(Sec. 19) Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) the mathematics and science education partnership program at NSF and the mathematics and science partnership program at the Department of Education are intended to be complementary, not duplicative; (2) Congress intends that the NSF peer-reviewed partnership programs found to be effective should be put into wider practice by dissemination through the Department of Education partnership programs; and (3) the Director and the Secretary of Education should collaborate to ensure that the two components of this effort continue to work in concert for the benefit of states and local practitioners nationwide.

(Sec. 20) Authorizes the Director to establish a new program to award grants on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to Hispanic-serving institutions to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, mathematics, engineering, and technology education at such institutions and to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing associate's or baccalaureate degrees in science, mathematics, engineering, or technology.

Specifies that the grants awarded shall support: (1) activities to improve courses and curricula in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology; (2) faculty development; (3) stipends for undergraduate students participating in research; and (4) other activities consistent with the grant program authorized by this section, as determined by the Director.

States that funding for instrumentation is an allowed use of grants awarded under this section.

(Sec. 21) Requires the Director to provide grant supplements to institutions receiving awards under the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program.

Requires the grant supplements to be used to train graduate students in the communication of the substance and importance of their research to nonscientist audiences, including policymakers.

Requires the Director to transmit a report describing how such activities have been implemented. Requires that such report include data on the number of graduate students trained and the number and size of grant supplements awarded, as well as a description of the types of activities funded.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **May 6, 2008:** Hearing Held by Subcommittee on Research and Science Education Prior to Introduction and Referral (March 20, 2007).
- **May 6, 2008:** Hearing Held by Subcommittee on Research and Science Education Prior to Introduction and Referral (March 29, 2007).
- **May 7, 2007:** Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 138.
- **May 3, 2007:** The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references, and to make other necessary technical and conforming corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 1867.
- **May 2, 2007:** Rule H. Res. 349 passed House.
- **May 2, 2007:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 349. (consideration: CR H4381-4411)
- **May 2, 2007:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1867 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Bill is open to amendments. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology now printed in the bill.
- **May 2, 2007:** House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union pursuant to H. Res. 349 and Rule XVIII.
- **May 2, 2007:** The Speaker designated the Honorable Jason Altmire to act as Chairman of the Committee.
- **May 2, 2007:** GENERAL DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with one hour of general debate on H.R. 1867.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Honda amendment under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - The Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Sullivan amendment to the Honda amendment, pending reservation of a point of order. Subsequently, the reservation was removed.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Sullivan amendment to the Honda amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Sullivan demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Weldon (FL) amendment under the five-minute rule, pending reservation of a point of order.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Campbell amendment numbered 5 under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Campbell amendment numbered 4 under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Campbell amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Campbell demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Garrett of New Jersey amendment numbered 11 under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Garrett amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Garrett demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Garrett of New Jersey amendment numbered 10 under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Flake amendment under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Flake amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Flake demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.

- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Matsui amendment under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Matsui amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the ayes had prevailed. Mr. Price of Georgia demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Ehlers amendment under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the McNerney amendment under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 349, the Committee of the Whole proceeded with debate on the Price of Georgia amendment under the five-minute rule.
- **May 2, 2007:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on the Price of Georgia amendment, the Chair put the question on adoption of the amendment and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Mr. Price of Georgia demanded a recorded vote and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of adoption of the amendment until later in the legislative day.
- **May 2, 2007:** UNFINISHED BUSINESS - The Chair announced that the unfinished business was the question of adoption of amendments which had been debated earlier and on which further proceedings had been postponed.
- **May 2, 2007:** The House rose from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union to report H.R. 1867.
- **May 2, 2007:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule. (consideration: CR H4410-4411)
- **May 2, 2007:** The House adopted the amendment in the nature of a substitute as agreed to by the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union. (text: CR H4384-4385, H4396, H4398-4400)
- **May 2, 2007:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 399 - 17 (Roll no. 295).
- **May 2, 2007:** On passage Passed by recorded vote: 399 - 17 (Roll no. 295).
- **May 2, 2007:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **May 1, 2007:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 349 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1867 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Bill is open to amendments. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology now printed in the bill.
- **Apr 30, 2007:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Science and Technology. H. Rept. 110-114.
- **Apr 30, 2007:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 68.
- **Apr 24, 2007:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Apr 24, 2007:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended).
- **Apr 19, 2007:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Apr 19, 2007:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote .
- **Apr 18, 2007:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Science Education.
- **Apr 17, 2007:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 17, 2007:** Referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology.