

## HR 5120

Department of Energy Laboratory Modernization and Technology Transfer Act of 2014

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Energy

**Introduced:** Jul 16, 2014

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Jul 23, 2014)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/5120>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Hultgren, Randy [R-IL-14]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fattah, Chaka [D-PA-2]	D · PA		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Nunnelee, Alan [R-MS-1]	R · MS		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Jul 16, 2014
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jul 18, 2014
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Jul 18, 2014
Rep. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Jul 22, 2014

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 23, 2014
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 16, 2014

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Energy

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

Department of Energy Laboratory Modernization and Technology Transfer Act of 2014 - **Title I: Innovation Management At Department of Energy** - (Sec. 101) Amends the Department of Energy Organization Act to rename the Under Secretary for Science as the Under Secretary for Science and Energy and expand the functions of the position to include establishment of appropriate linkages between offices under such official's jurisdiction.

(Sec. 102) Directs the Department of Energy (DOE) to: (1) report on its ability to improve the technology transfer and commercialization of energy technologies, including an assessment of the role and effectiveness of the Technology Transfer Coordinator position; and (2) recommend changes to improve the ability to successfully transfer new energy technologies to the private sector.

(Sec. 103) Expresses the sense of Congress regarding the development of a coordinated strategy for DOE nonmilitary national laboratories in the 21st century.

**Title II: Cross-Sector Partnerships and Grant Competitiveness** - (Sec. 201) Directs DOE to carry out the Agreements for Commercializing Technology pilot program in accordance with this Act, including by giving the contractors of the DOE nonmilitary national laboratories (national laboratories) increased authority to negotiate contract terms and making every such facility eligible for the program.

Permits the directors of the national laboratories to execute agreements with non-federal entities, provided that such funding is only used to carry out the purposes of the federal award. Subjects agreements that are funding agreements to the requirements of the Bayh-Dole Act (concerning patent rights to inventions arising from federally-supported research and development).

Imposes contractor certification requirements for the avoidance of direct competition with the private sector and conflicts of interest.

Extends the pilot program for two years.

Requires DOE to report to Congress on the overall effectiveness of the pilot program and to annually account for, and justify, incidences of use by non-federal entities of funds derived from a federal contract or award to carry out agreements pursuant to the pilot program.

(Sec. 202) Requires the Secretary of Energy to delegate to the directors of the national laboratories signature authority with respect to certain agreements the total cost of which is less than \$1 million.

(Sec. 203) Permits the directors of national laboratories to use funds authorized to support technology transfer within DOE to carry out early-stage and pre-commercial technology demonstration activities to: (1) remove technology barriers that limit private sector interest, and (2) demonstrate potential commercial applications of any research and technologies arising from national laboratory activities.

(Sec. 204) Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to exempt institutions of higher education and nonprofit institutions from the cost-sharing requirements for research and development for six years.

(Sec. 205) Authorizes DOE to enter into an agreement with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to enable the participation of DOE researchers in the National Science Foundation Innovation Corps program.

**Title III: Assessment of Impact** - (Sec. 301) Requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report to

Congress on the results of projects developed under this Act and on DOE efforts to promote technology transfer and private sector engagement at the national laboratories.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 23, 2014:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Jul 22, 2014:** Mr. Hultgren moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 22, 2014:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6601-6604)
- **Jul 22, 2014:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5120.
- **Jul 22, 2014:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6601-6603)
- **Jul 22, 2014:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6601-6603)
- **Jul 22, 2014:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 16, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 16, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.