

S 1187

America INNOVATES Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: May 4, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-344.

Latest Action: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-344. (Jun 9, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1187>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		May 4, 2015
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		May 4, 2015
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		May 4, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 9, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1806	Related bill	May 21, 2015: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
114 HR 1158	Related bill	May 20, 2015: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

America Implementing New National Opportunities To Vigorously Accelerate Technology, Energy, and Science Act or the America INNOVATES Act

Amends the Department of Energy Organization Act to rename the Under Secretary for Science as the Under Secretary for Science and Energy.

Directs the Department of Energy (DOE) to report annually on DOE's ability to improve the technology transfer and commercialization of energy technologies.

Directs DOE to carry out the Agreements for Commercializing Technology pilot program, in part 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.

Extends the pilot program for a term of three years after the enactment of this Act.

Requires DOE to delegate to the directors of the national laboratories signature authority with respect to certain agreements (except those with a majority foreign-owned company) whose total cost is less than \$1 million.

Permits the directors of national laboratories to use funds authorized to support technology transfer within DOE to carry out early-stage and precommercial 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.

Amends the Small Business Act to require DOE, in carrying out its Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs, to provide to small businesses seeking funding under these programs information concerning resources available to them at national laboratories and federally funded research and development centers.

Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to exempt, for six years after enactment of this Act, institutions of higher education and nonprofit institutions from the cost-sharing requirements for research and development.

Requires the Government Accountability Office 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

- **Jun 9, 2015:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-344.
- **May 4, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 4, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.