# HR 591

Engineering Biology Research and Development Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)
**Chamber:** House
**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications
**Introduced:** Jan 28, 2015
**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology. (Feb 19, 2015)
**Official Text:** https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/591

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]
**Party:** Democratic • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (2 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5] | R · WI | | Jan 28, 2015 |
| Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52] | D · CA | | Apr 22, 2015 |

## Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Science, Space, and Technology Committee | House | Referred to | Feb 19, 2015 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Science, Technology, Communications

## Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|---|---|---|
| 114 HR 1898 | Related bill | **Nov 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training. |

## Summary (as of Jan 28, 2015)

**Engineering Biology Research and Development Act of 2015**

Directs the President to implement a National Engineering Biology Research and Development Program to advance societal well-being, national security, and economic productivity and competitiveness through:

- advancing areas of research at the intersection of the biological, physical, and information sciences and engineering;
- supporting social science research that advances the field of engineering biology and contributes to the adoption of new products, processes, and technologies;
- expanding the number of researchers, educators, and students with engineering biology training;
- accelerating the translation and commercialization of engineering biology research and development by the private sector; and
- improving the interagency planning and coordination of federal government activities related to engineering biology.

Directs the President to designate an interagency committee on engineering biology to oversee the planning, management, and coordination of the Program.

Requires the President to designate an advisory committee on engineering biology research and development to assess the progress being made in implementing the Program.

Directs the National Science Foundation to contract with the National Academies to convene a workshop to review the ethical, legal, environmental, and other appropriate societal issues related to engineering biology research and development.

Requires the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out specified research activities as part of the Program.

## Actions Timeline

- **Feb 19, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
- **Jan 28, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 28, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.