

## HR 6596

To realign the nuclear forensics and attribution activities of the Federal Government from the Department of Homeland Security to the National Nuclear Security Administration.

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Apr 22, 2020

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery. (Jun 1, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6596>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fortenberry, Jeff [R-NE-1]	R · NE		Apr 22, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 22, 2020
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 22, 2020
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 22, 2020
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 1, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

This bill reorganizes nuclear forensics and attribution activities of the federal government. Specifically, the bill transfers nuclear forensics activities currently performed by the Department of Homeland Security to the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) within the Department of Energy (DOE). *Nuclear forensics* is the examination of nuclear and other radioactive materials to determine the origin and history of the material for purposes of law enforcement investigations or assessment of nuclear security vulnerabilities.

The bill also establishes the National Nuclear Forensics Center within the NNSA. The center must coordinate stewardship, planning, assessment, and other functions for all federal nuclear forensics and attribution activities.

Additionally, the NNSA must develop and implement a plan to modify its university-based research collaboration program to include the development of expertise in nuclear forensics in supporting scientific and engineering advancement in DOE defense and national security program areas.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 1, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.
- **Apr 22, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 22, 2020:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.