

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL (H.R. 363) TO AUTHORIZE
APPROPRIATIONS FOR BASIC RESEARCH AND RESEARCH INFRASTRUC-
TURE IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING, AND FOR SUPPORT OF GRAD-
UATE FELLOWSHIPS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

APRIL 18, 2007.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. CARDOZA, from the Committee on Rules,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. Res. 318]

The Committee on Rules, having had under consideration House Resolution 318, by a nonrecord vote, report the same to the House with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS OF THE RESOLUTION

The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 363, which authorizes appropriations for basic research and research infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships. The resolution provides for one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Science and Technology.

The resolution waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The resolution makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as an original bill and shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment are waived except those arising under clauses 9 or 10 of rule XXI.

The resolution makes in order those amendments printed in this report and waives all points of order against such amendments except those arising under clauses 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The resolution provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, during consideration of the bill the Chair may postpone further consideration to a time designated by the Speaker.

EXPLANATION OF WAIVERS

Although the rule waives all points of order against the bill's consideration (except for those arising under clauses 9 or 10 of rule XXI), the Committee is not aware of any specific points of order. The waiver of all points of order against the bill and against its consideration is prophylactic in nature.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS MADE IN ORDER UNDER THE RULE

(Summaries derived from information provided by sponsors.)

1. Hall (TX): This amendment requires the Director of the National Science Foundation to allocate at least 3.5% of funds appropriated to the National Science Foundation for Research and Related Activities to the early career awards for science and engineering researchers except to the extent that a sufficient number of meritorious grant applications have not been received for a fiscal year. (20 minutes)

2. Tauscher (CA): Under the NSF awards guidelines, the amendment recommends that the Director "shall give special consideration to eligible early-career researchers who have followed alternative career paths such as working part-time or in non-academic settings, or who have taken a significant career break or other leave of absence." The amendment would also add to the Presidential Award section that an additional purpose of the award is that it helps foster innovation that enhances American competitiveness. (10 minutes)

3. Gillibrand (NY): The National Science Foundation shall institute a program to award scholarships in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics to undergraduate scholars. Scholarships awarded shall provide for a student's full tuition during their last two years at an undergraduate institution. (10 minutes)

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS MADE IN ORDER UNDER THE RULE

1. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE HALL OF TEXAS, OR HIS DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 20 MINUTES

Page 4, line 15, insert " , except to the extent that a sufficient number of meritorious grant applications have not been received for a fiscal year" after "under this section".

2. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE TAUSCHER OF CALIFORNIA, OR HER DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 10 MINUTES

Page 4, line 10, insert "In awarding grants under this section, the Director shall give special consideration to eligible early-career researchers who have followed alternative career paths such as working part-time or in nonacademic settings, or who have taken a significant career break or other leave of absence." after "(20 U.S.C. 1067k(3)).".

Page 10, line 9, strike "needs; and" and insert "needs;".

Page 10, line 10, redesignate paragraph (3) as paragraph (4).

Page 10, after line 9, insert the following new paragraph:

(3) show the potential of such innovation to substantively enhance the economic competitiveness of the United States

through development of commercializable intellectual property;
and

3. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE GILLIBRAND OF NEW YORK, OR HER DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 10 MINUTES

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

SEC. 10. UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The National Science Foundation shall establish a program, to be known as the Undergraduate Scholarships for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, or US-STEM, program, for awarding scholarships to undergraduate scholars in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

(b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—A student is eligible for a scholarship under this section only if the student—

- (1) is enrolled at a public, 4-year college or university;
- (2) will have completed at least one-half of the credit requirements for an undergraduate degree before beginning studies to be funded by the scholarship;
- (3) has maintained a grade point average in undergraduate studies of at least 3.0 on a scale of 4.0, or an equivalent level as calculated by the National Science Foundation, except that if the student's institution appeals this criterion on the basis of undue hardship on the student, the National Science Foundation may waive this paragraph;
- (4) has a total family income of less than \$75,000 per year, with such amount to be adjusted annually by the National Science Foundation for inflation;
- (5) has not been convicted of a felony; and
- (6) is a citizen or permanent resident alien of the United States.

(c) **SELECTION CRITERIA.**—Scholarship recipients shall be selected on the basis of merit and such other criteria as the National Science Foundation shall establish.

(d) **AWARDS.**—The National Science Foundation shall announce awards before April 1 for each upcoming academic year, and may make up to 2,500 awards per year. Awards may be made for a maximum of 2 academic years for each student, and scholarship amounts shall be paid to the institution.

(e) **ADVISORY BOARD.**—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall establish an advisory board, which shall make recommendations to the Director for selection criteria for scholarship recipients, and provide guidance and oversight for the program.

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Science Foundation for carrying out this section—

- (1) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;
- (2) \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
- (3) \$61,800,000 for fiscal year 2011;
- (4) \$63,600,000 for fiscal year 2012; and

(5) \$65,500,000 for fiscal year 2013.

