

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3894

To reinvigorate science and technology functions of the Department of the
Air Force.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 1998

Mr. HALL of Ohio (for himself, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. HOBSON) introduced
the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on National Security

A BILL

To reinvigorate science and technology functions of the
Department of the Air Force.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Air Force Science and
5 Technology Reinvigoration Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) When the Air Force was established in
9 1947 as an independent service, its founders ex-
10 pected that it would ensure that scientific research

1 and technology development would be a priority of
2 America's aeronautical defenses.

3 (2) Scientific investigation, accompanied by the
4 new knowledge it generates, is the cornerstone of
5 air, space, and information superiority. To maintain
6 air, space, and information superiority, a strong re-
7 search base is critical. Sustaining a strong research
8 and development base is a continuous effort, taking
9 place both inside and outside the Air Force and in-
10 volving the best minds of the Nation.

11 (3) The vision of Air Force founder General
12 Henry H. Arnold and others—that the Air Force
13 should be built around science—remains as vital
14 today as it was more than 50 years ago.

15 (4) Investment in Air Force research and devel-
16 opment has resulted in benefits to American indus-
17 try, especially the aerospace industry, and made sig-
18 nificant contributions to the American economy.

19 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SCIENCE AND**
20 **TECHNOLOGY FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPART-**
21 **MENT OF THE AIR FORCE.**

22 It is the sense of Congress that—

23 (1) to ensure sufficient financial resources are
24 devoted to emerging technologies, not less than 2.5
25 percent of the funds available for obligation by the

1 Air Force should be dedicated to science and tech-
2 nology;

3 (2) management and funding for science and
4 technology by the Air Force should be separate from
5 management and funding for acquisition by the Air
6 Force;

7 (3) to increase long-term investments, not less
8 than 15 percent of science and technology funds
9 available for obligation by the Air Force should be
10 invested in new technology areas, including critical
11 information technology programs, for the next 5
12 years;

13 (4) to maintain a sufficient base of scientists
14 and engineers to meet the technological challenges of
15 the future, the Air Force should—

16 (A) increase the number of Air Force offi-
17 cers and civilian employees holding doctorate
18 degrees in technical fields; and

19 (B) increase the number and variety of
20 technical degrees at the master's level granted
21 to Air Force officers and civilian employees
22 from both the Air Force Institute of Technology
23 and civilian universities; and

24 (5) to ensure Air Force science and technology
25 does not stagnate, a concentrated effort should be

1 made to eliminate 5 percent of science and tech-
2 nology programs each year, with funds from the dis-
3 continued programs used for new science and tech-
4 nology programs.

5 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS RELATING TO SCIENCE AND TECH-**
6 **NOLOGY FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT**
7 **OF THE AIR FORCE.**

8 (a) SEPARATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
9 FUNCTION FROM EQUIPPING FUNCTION OF SECRETARY
10 OF THE AIR FORCE.—Section 8013(b) of title 10, United
11 States Code, is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “(including re-
13 search and development)”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following new
15 paragraph:

16 “(13) Research and development.”.

17 (b) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUNCTION OF
18 THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.—

19 (1) Section 8014(c)(1) of such title is amended by adding
20 at the end the following new subparagraph:

21 “(H) Research and Development.”.

22 (2) Section 8014 of such title is amended—

23 (A) by striking out subsection (d); and

24 (B) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as
25 subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

1 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF
2 THE AIR FORCE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—(1)
3 Section 8016 of such title is amended—

4 (A) in subsection (a), by striking out “four”
5 and inserting in lieu thereof “five”; and

6 (B) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
7 following new paragraph:

8 “(4) One of the Assistant Secretaries shall be the As-
9 sistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science and Tech-
10 nology. The Assistant Secretary shall have as his principal
11 duty the overall supervision of science and technology
12 functions of the Department of the Air Force.”.

13 (2) Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is
14 amended in the item relating to the Assistant Secretaries
15 of the Air Force by striking out “(4)” and inserting in
16 lieu thereof “(5)”.

17 (d) ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
18 FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—Section 8035 of title
19 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
20 the following new subsection:

21 “(c) One of the Deputy Chiefs of Staff shall be the
22 Deputy Chief of Staff for Science and Technology.”.

23 **SEC. 5. STUDY.**

24 (a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the Air Force
25 shall enter into a contract with the National Research

1 Council of the National Academy of Sciences to study the
2 technology base of the Air Force.

3 (b) MATTERS COVERED.—The study shall—

4 (1) recommend the minimum requirements to
5 maintain a technology base that is sufficient, based
6 on both historical developments and future projec-
7 tions, to project superiority in air and space weapons
8 systems, and information technology;

9 (2) address the effects on national defense and
10 civilian aerospace industries and information tech-
11 nology by reducing funding below the minimum level
12 described in paragraph (1) of section 3; and

13 (3) recommend the appropriate level of staff
14 holding baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate de-
15 grees, and the optimal ratio of civilian and military
16 staff holding such degrees, to ensure that science
17 and technology functions of the Air Force remain
18 vital.

19 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date
20 on which the study required under subsection (a) is com-
21 pleted, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report
22 on the results of the study.

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