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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out an initiative to encourage States to enhance the dissemination of nuclear information at certain schools, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DONALDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out an initiative to encourage States to enhance the dissemination of nuclear information at certain schools, and for other purposes.

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 “American Nuclear
5 Workforce Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NUCLEAR EDUCATION INITIATIVE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy
3 shall establish and carry out an initiative to encourage
4 States to enhance the dissemination of nuclear science and
5 technology information at covered schools.

6 (b) DEGREES.—In carrying out the initiative estab-
7 lished under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall
8 encourage States to work with institutions of higher edu-
9 cation that are covered schools, to, as appropriate, incor-
10 porate degrees that may be relevant in the nuclear energy
11 industry, including degrees in environmental science, biol-
12 ogy, chemistry, nuclear engineering, electrical engineering,
13 mechanical engineering, civil engineering, systems engi-
14 neering, radiochemistry, applied and engineering physics,
15 materials science, and occupational safety and health.

16 (c) TOURS AND OUTREACH.—In carrying out the ini-
17 tiative established under subsection (a), the Secretary of
18 Energy shall encourage—

19 (1) covered schools to engage with local nuclear
20 power plants to provide students with tours of such
21 nuclear power plants to learn about nuclear energy
22 firsthand; and

23 (2) relevant nuclear stakeholders to engage with
24 covered schools about potential professional opportu-
25 nities within the nuclear industry, including by pro-
26 viding information regarding paid and unpaid in-

1 ternships, scholarships, apprenticeships, fellowships,
2 and other experiential opportunities.

3 (d) NUCLEAR ENERGY UNIVERSITY PROGRAM.—The
4 Secretary of Energy shall, to the extent practicable, carry
5 out the initiative established under subsection (a) in con-
6 junction with the Nuclear Energy University Program of
7 the Department of Energy.

8 (e) CONSIDERATION.—In establishing and carrying
9 out the initiative under subsection (a), the Secretary of
10 Energy shall take into consideration the Institute of Nu-
11 clear Power Operations Uniform Curriculum Program
12 Guide.

13 (f) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the initiative
15 established under subsection (a), the Secretary of
16 Energy shall establish and carry out a mentorship
17 program to pair volunteers who are employed in the
18 nuclear industry with students in covered schools,
19 including for virtual teleconference mentorship op-
20 portunities.

21 (2) PROCEDURES.—In carrying out the
22 mentorship program established under paragraph
23 (1), the Secretary of Energy shall establish proce-
24 dures to appropriately pair students with volunteers,
25 based on career interest, geographic location, or any

1 other consideration the Secretary determines appro-
2 priate.

3 (3) CONSIDERATION.—In carrying out the
4 mentorship program established under paragraph
5 (1), the Secretary of Energy shall consider any on-
6 going efforts to establish, or already established,
7 mentorship programs or opportunities that may be
8 relevant and could be utilized.

9 (g) RESEARCH AND TEST REACTORS.—In carrying
10 out the initiative established under subsection (a), the Sec-
11 retary of Energy shall encourage States to work with insti-
12 tutions of higher education that have a research and test
13 reactor on campus to continue to use the research and
14 test reactor—

15 (1) to assist in preparing students for careers
16 in the nuclear workforce, including careers at nu-
17 clear power plants and in the nuclear energy supply
18 chain; and

19 (2) to help inform the general student body
20 about nuclear energy.

21 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

22 (1) COVERED SCHOOL.—The term “covered
23 school” means—

24 (A) an institution of higher education or a
25 secondary school that is located within approxi-

1 mately 25 miles (or such distance as the Sec-
2 retary of Energy determines appropriate) of—

3 (i) a commercially operating nuclear
4 power plant; or

5 (ii) the headquarters for a nuclear re-
6 actor developer; or

7 (B) any other institution of higher edu-
8 cation or secondary school that the Secretary of
9 Energy determines appropriate.

10 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
11 term “institution of higher education” has the
12 meaning given the term in section 101 or
13 102(a)(1)(B) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
14 (20 U.S.C. 1001, 1002(a)(1)(B)).

15 (3) RESEARCH AND TEST REACTOR.—The term
16 “research and test reactor” has the meaning given
17 such term in section 3(11) of the Nuclear Energy
18 Innovation and Modernization Act (42 U.S.C. 2215
19 note).

20 (4) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “sec-
21 ondary school” has the meaning given such term in
22 section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
23 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).