To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to provide financial assistance to graduate students and postdoctoral researchers pursuing certain courses of study relating to cybersecurity and energy infrastructure.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Energy Cybersecurity University Leadership Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. ENERGY CYBERSECURITY UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:
(1) Addressing cybersecurity vulnerabilities in energy-related critical infrastructure after an intrusion occurs is inefficient, ineffective, and costly.

(2) Integrating cybersecurity considerations into the research, design, and development of energy infrastructure represents a cost-effective approach to enhancing the security, resilience, and reliability of the electric grid, oil and natural gas pipelines, and other energy distribution, transmission, and generation systems.

(3) Successfully employing the approach outlined in paragraph (2) as a guiding principle for the Department’s energy infrastructure activities will require a diverse, inclusive, and highly skilled workforce which possesses energy-specific cybersecurity expertise and familiarity with associated research, development, and demonstration needs.

(4) A dedicated science scholarship program at the Department for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers studying energy-specific cybersecurity disciplines could help address the challenges stated in paragraphs (1) through (3).

(b) PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish an Energy Cybersecurity Univer-
sity Leadership Program (referred to in this section as the “Program”) to carry out the activities described in paragraph (2).

(2) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall—

(A) provide financial assistance, on a competitive basis, for scholarships, fellowships, and research and development projects at institutions of higher education to support graduate students and postdoctoral researchers pursuing a course of study that integrates cybersecurity competencies within disciplines associated with energy infrastructure needs;

(B) provide graduate students and postdoctoral researchers supported under the Program with research traineeship experiences at National Laboratories and utilities; and

(C) conduct outreach to historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal Colleges or Universities, and minority-serving institutions.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on En-
ergy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the
development and implementation of the Program.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
means the Department of Energy.

(2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNI-
VERSITY.—The term “historically Black college and
university” has the meaning given the term “part B
institution” in section 322 of the Higher Education

(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The
term “institution of higher education” has the
meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the
Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

(4) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The
term “minority-serving institution” means an eligi-
ble institution under section 371(a) of the Higher
Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

(5) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term “Na-
tional Laboratory” has the meaning given such term
in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42

(6) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The
term “Tribal College or University” has the meaning
given such term in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).