

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2763
OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. _____. INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO TECHNOLOGY**
2 **TRANSFER.**

3 Section 9(jj) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
4 638(jj)) is amended to read as follows:

5 “(jj) INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO TECHNOLOGY
6 TRANSFER.—

7 “(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal agency
9 required by subsection (n) to establish an
10 STTR program shall carry out an Innovative
11 Approaches to Technology Transfer Grant Pro-
12 gram (hereinafter referred to as a ‘Program’)
13 to support innovative approaches to technology
14 transfer at institutions of higher education (as
15 defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Edu-
16 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), non-
17 profit research institutions, and Federal labora-
18 tories in order to accelerate the commercializa-
19 tion of federally funded research and technology

1 by small business concerns, including new busi-
2 nesses.

3 “(B) AWARDING OF GRANTS TO QUALI-
4 FYING INSTITUTIONS.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal
6 agency described in subparagraph (A) shall
7 provide grants, through a competitive,
8 merit-based process, in the amounts listed
9 in subparagraph (C)(i) to institutions of
10 higher education, technology transfer orga-
11 nizations that facilitate the commercializa-
12 tion of technologies developed by one or
13 more such institutions of higher education,
14 Federal laboratories, other public and pri-
15 vate nonprofit entities, and consortia there-
16 of, for initiatives that help identify high-
17 quality, commercially viable federally fund-
18 ed research and technologies and to facili-
19 tate and accelerate their transfer into the
20 marketplace.

21 “(ii) SELECTION PROCESS AND APPLI-
22 CATIONS.—Qualifying institutions seeking
23 a grant under this subsection shall submit
24 an application to a Federal agency de-
25 scribed in subparagraph (A) at such time,

1 in such manner, and containing such infor-
2 mation as the agency may require. The ap-
3 plication shall include, at a minimum—

4 “(I) a description of innovative
5 approaches to technology transfer,
6 technology development, and commer-
7 cial readiness that have the potential
8 to increase or accelerate technology
9 transfer outcomes and can be adopted
10 by other qualifying institutions, or a
11 demonstration of proven technology
12 transfer and commercialization strate-
13 gies, or a plan to implement proven
14 technology transfer and commer-
15 cialization strategies, that can achieve
16 greater commercialization of federally
17 funded research and technologies with
18 Program funding;

19 “(II) a description of how the
20 qualifying institution will contribute
21 to local and regional economic devel-
22 opment efforts; and

23 “(III) a plan for sustainability
24 beyond the duration of the funding
25 award.

1 “(iii) USE OF FUNDS.—Activities sup-
2 ported by grants under this subsection
3 may include—

4 “(I) providing early-stage proof
5 of concept funding for translational
6 research;

7 “(II) identifying research and
8 technologies at recipient institutions
9 that have the potential for accelerated
10 commercialization;

11 “(III) technology maturation
12 funding to support activities such as
13 prototype construction, experiment
14 analysis, product comparison, and col-
15 lecting performance data;

16 “(IV) technical validations, mar-
17 ket research, clarifying intellectual
18 property rights position and strategy,
19 and investigating commercial and
20 business opportunities; and

21 “(V) programs to provide advice,
22 mentoring, entrepreneurial education,
23 project management, and technology
24 and business development expertise to
25 innovators and recipients of tech-

1 nology transfer licenses to maximize
2 commercialization potential.

3 “(iv) PROGRAM OVERSIGHT BOARD.—

4 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Successful
5 applications required under clause (ii)
6 shall include a plan to assemble a
7 Program Oversight Board, the mem-
8 bers of which shall have technical, sci-
9 entific, or business expertise and shall
10 be drawn from industry, start-up com-
11 panies, venture capital, technical en-
12 terprises, financial institutions, and
13 business development organizations.

14 “(II) PROJECT AWARDS.—A Pro-
15 gram Oversight Board shall—

16 “(aa) establish award pro-
17 grams for individual projects;

18 “(bb) provide rigorous eval-
19 uation of project applications;

20 “(cc) determine which
21 projects should receive awards, in
22 accordance with guidelines estab-
23 lished by the Board;

24 “(dd) establish milestones
25 and associated award amounts

1 for projects that reach mile-
2 stones;

3 “(ee) determine whether
4 awarded projects are reaching
5 milestones; and

6 “(ff) develop a process to re-
7 allocate outstanding award
8 amounts from projects that are
9 not reaching milestones to other
10 projects with more potential.

11 “(C) GRANT AND AWARD AMOUNTS.—

12 “(i) GRANT AMOUNTS.—Each Federal
13 agency described in subparagraph (A) may
14 make grants under subparagraph (B) to
15 qualifying institutions for up to
16 \$1,000,000 per year for up to 3 years.

17 “(ii) AWARD AMOUNTS.—Each quali-
18 fying institution that receives a grant
19 under subparagraph (B) shall provide
20 awards for individual projects of not more
21 than \$150,000, to be provided in phased
22 amounts, based on reaching the milestones
23 established by the qualifying institution’s
24 Program Oversight Board.

1 “(D) AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES FOR
2 THE PROGRAM.—

3 “(i) PERCENTAGE.—The percentage
4 of the extramural budget that each Federal
5 agency described under subparagraph (A)
6 expends on a Program shall be—

7 “(I) 0.05 percent for each of fis-
8 cal years 2018 and 2019; and

9 “(II) 0.1 percent for each of fis-
10 cal years 2020 and 2021.

11 “(ii) TREATMENT OF EXPENDI-
12 TURES.—Any portion of the extramural
13 budget expended by a Federal agency on a
14 Program shall apply towards the agency’s
15 expenditure requirements under subsection
16 (n).

17 “(2) PROGRAM EVALUATION AND DATA COL-
18 LECTION AND DISSEMINATION.—

19 “(A) EVALUATION PLAN AND DATA COL-
20 LECTION.—Each Federal agency required by
21 paragraph (1)(A) to establish a Program shall
22 develop a program evaluation plan and collect,
23 annually, such information from grantees as is
24 necessary to assess the Program. Program eval-
25 uation plans shall require the collection of data

1 aimed at identifying outcomes resulting from
2 the transfer of technology with assistance from
3 the Program, such as—

4 “(i) specific follow-on funding identi-
5 fied or obtained, including follow-on fund-
6 ing sources, such as Federal sources or
7 private sources;

8 “(ii) the number of projects which re-
9 sult in a license to a start-up company or
10 an established company with sufficient re-
11 sources for effective commercialization
12 within 5 years of receiving an award under
13 paragraph (1)(C)(ii);

14 “(iii) invention disclosures and pat-
15 ents;

16 “(iv) the number of projects sup-
17 ported by qualifying institutions receiving
18 a grant under paragraph (1)(C)(i) that se-
19 cure Phase I or Phase II SBIR or STTR
20 awards;

21 “(v) available information on revenue,
22 sales, or other measures of products that
23 have been commercialized as a result of
24 projects awarded under paragraph
25 (1)(C)(ii);

1 “(vi) the number and location of jobs
2 created resulting from projects awarded
3 under paragraph (1)(C)(ii); and

4 “(vii) other data as considered appro-
5 priate by a Federal agency required by this
6 subparagraph to develop a program evalua-
7 tion plan.

8 “(B) EVALUATIVE REPORT TO CON-
9 GRESS.—The head of each Federal agency that
10 has a Program shall submit to the Committee
11 on Science, Space, and Technology and the
12 Committee on Small Business of the House of
13 Representatives and the Committee on Small
14 Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate
15 an evaluative report regarding the activities of
16 the Program. The report shall include—

17 “(i) a detailed description of the im-
18 plementation of the Program;

19 “(ii) a detailed description of the
20 grantee selection process;

21 “(iii) an accounting of the funds used
22 in the Program; and

23 “(iv) a summary of the data collected
24 under subparagraph (A).

1 “(C) DATA DISSEMINATION.—For pur-
2 poses of Program transparency and dissemina-
3 tion of best practices, the Administrator shall
4 include, on the public database under sub-
5 section (k)(1), information on the Program, in-
6 cluding—

7 “(i) the program evaluation plan re-
8 quired under subparagraph (A);

9 “(ii) a list of recipients of awards
10 under paragraph (1)(C)(ii); and

11 “(iii) information on the use of grants
12 under paragraph (1)(C)(i) by recipient in-
13 stitutions.”.

