



H.R. 4606, the Energizing Technology Transfer Act

part of the America COMPETES Act

Ms. Ross (D-NC) introduced this bill on July 21st on behalf of herself and Mr. Meijer (R-MI).

The Energizing Technology Transfer Act authorizes a series of activities related to clean energy technology commercialization nationally and at the national laboratories, as well as reforms for DOE management and administration of demonstration projects and prize competitions, among other activities.

Title I of the bill authorizes a series of programs to enhance commercialization of clean energy technologies across the nation. This includes authorization of: \$15 million annually for 5 years for a national clean energy technology incubator program; \$1 million annually for 5 years for university prize competitions, and \$3 million annually for 5 years for coordination of technology transfer programs and activities.

Title II of the bill would authorize programs to support the commercialization of technologies developed at the national laboratories and facilitate partnerships with the national laboratories. This includes authorizing a total of \$3.7 million annually for 3 years for a Lab Partnering Service Pilot Program. It would also authorize: \$25 million annually for five years for a program to bring entrepreneurial researchers into the national laboratories; \$25 million annually for five years for a program to provide small businesses with greater access to national laboratory facilities and expertise; entrepreneurial leave and consulting for national lab employees; and signature authority to national laboratory directors to approve agreements under \$1 million, provided that such agreements are consistent with a strategic plan for the laboratory approved by the Department of Energy.

Title III of the bill authorizes programs to modernize activities at DOE pertaining to its management and funding of technology development, demonstration, and commercialization. This includes authorization of: \$20 million for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out the authorized activities of DOE's Office of Technology Transitions; substantial oversight mechanisms for demonstration projects stewarded by the Department; extension of a cost-share waiver program for universities and non-profits by 2-years; special hiring authority; and consolidated and updated reporting requirements.