

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1326

To underscore the importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, encouraging the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, supporting progress in improving nuclear safety, enhancing the public availability of nuclear safety information, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2011

Mr. FORTENBERRY (for himself and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To underscore the importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, encouraging the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, supporting progress in improving nuclear safety, enhancing the public availability of nuclear safety information, 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 “Furthering Inter-
5 national Nuclear Safety Act of 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

2 The purposes of this Act are as follows:

3 (1) To recognize the paramount importance of
4 international nuclear safety cooperation for oper-
5 ating power reactors.

6 (2) To further the efforts of the Convention on
7 Nuclear Safety as a vital international forum on nu-
8 clear safety.

9 (3) To support progress in improving nuclear
10 safety for countries that currently have or are con-
11 sidering the development of a civilian nuclear power
12 program.

13 (4) To enhance the public availability of nuclear
14 safety information.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
18 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-
19 mittees” means—

20 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
21 the Senate;

22 (B) the Committee on Environment and
23 Public Works of the Senate;

24 (C) the Committee on Homeland Security
25 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

1 (D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
2 the House of Representatives;

3 (E) the Committee on Energy and Com-
4 merce of the House of Representatives;

5 (F) the Committee on Oversight and Gov-
6 ernment Reform of the House of Representa-
7 tives; and

8 (G) the Committee on Natural Resources
9 of the House of Representatives.

10 (2) CONVENTION.—The term “Convention”
11 means the Convention on Nuclear Safety, done at
12 Vienna September 20, 1994, and ratified by the
13 United States April 11, 1999.

14 (3) MEETING.—The term “meeting” means a
15 meeting as described under Article 20, 21, or 23 of
16 the Convention.

17 (4) NATIONAL REPORT.—The term “national
18 report” means a report as described under Article 5
19 of the Convention.

20 (5) PARTY.—The term “party” means a nation
21 that has formally joined the Convention through
22 ratification or other means.

23 (6) SUMMARY REPORT.—The term “summary
24 report” means a report as described under Article
25 25 of the Convention.

1 **SEC. 4. UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO FURTHER INTER-**
2 **NATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY.**

3 The President shall instruct the United States official
4 serving as the delegate to the meetings of the Convention
5 on Nuclear Safety pursuant to Article 24 of the Conven-
6 tion to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United
7 States, while recognizing that these efforts by parties are
8 voluntary, to encourage, where appropriate—

9 (1) parties to more systematically assess where
10 and how they have made progress in improving safe-
11 ty, including where applicable through the incorpora-
12 tion of performance metric tools;

13 (2) parties to increase the number of national
14 reports they make available to the public by posting
15 them to a publicly available Internet Web site of the
16 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);

17 (3) parties to expand public dissemination of
18 written answers to questions raised by other parties
19 about national reports by posting the information to
20 a publicly available Internet Web site of the IAEA;

21 (4) the IAEA to further its support of the Con-
22 vention, upon request by a party and where funding
23 is available, by—

24 (A) providing assistance to parties pre-
25 paring national reports;

1 (B) providing additional assistance to help
2 prepare for and support meetings, including
3 language translation services; and

4 (C) providing additional technical support
5 to improve the safety of civilian nuclear power
6 programs;

7 (5) all countries that currently have or are con-
8 sidering the establishment of a civilian nuclear
9 power program to formally join the Convention;

10 (6) parties to create standard practices for pro-
11 viding accurate and timely information regarding
12 nuclear accidents and to cooperate on the develop-
13 ment of emergency response plans, and to post this
14 information to a publicly available Internet Web site
15 of the IAEA; and

16 (7) parties to expand cooperation on prediction
17 and analysis capability for earthquakes, tsunamis,
18 and on radiation as it is transported away from nu-
19 clear sites, and to post this information to a publicly
20 available Internet Web site of the IAEA.

21 **SEC. 5. STRATEGIC PLAN.**

22 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
23 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in cooperation
24 with the heads of other relevant United States Govern-
25 ment agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congres-

1 sional committees the United States Government's stra-
2 tegic plan and prioritized goals for international nuclear
3 safety cooperation for operating power reactors.

4 **SEC. 6. REPORTS.**

5 (a) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC
6 PLAN.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
8 after the issuance of each of the first two summary
9 reports of the Convention that are issued after the
10 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
11 State, in cooperation with the heads of other rel-
12 evant United States Government agencies, shall sub-
13 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a
14 report that—

15 (A) describes the status of implementing
16 the strategic plan and achieving the goals speci-
17 fied in section 5; and

18 (B) enumerates the most significant con-
19 cerns of the United States Government regard-
20 ing worldwide nuclear safety and describes the
21 extent to which the strategic plan addresses
22 these concerns.

23 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-
24 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
25 but may contain a classified annex.

1 (b) REPORT ON UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO FUR-
2 THER INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY.—Not later
3 than 180 days after the issuance of each of the first two
4 summary reports of the Convention issued after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the United States official
6 serving as the delegate to the meetings of the Convention
7 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
8 a report providing the status of achieving the actions set
9 forth in section 4.

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