

**Calendar No. 359**116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 2688**

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish an Office of Technology Transitions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 23, 2019

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. TILLIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

DECEMBER 17, 2019

Reported by Ms. MURKOWSKI, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in *italic*]**A BILL**

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish an Office of Technology Transitions, 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 “Technology Transi-  
5 tions Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSITIONS.**

2 Section 1001 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42  
3 U.S.C. 16391) is amended—

4 (1) by striking subsection (a) and all that fol-  
5 lows through “The Coordinator” in subsection (b)  
6 and inserting the following:

7 “(a) OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSITIONS.—

8 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established  
9 within the Department an Office of Technology  
10 Transitions (referred to in this section as the ‘Of-  
11 fice’).

12 “(2) MISSION.—The mission of the Office shall  
13 be—

14 “(A) to expand the commercial impact of  
15 the research investments of the Department;  
16 and

17 “(B) to focus on commercializing tech-  
18 nologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions  
19 and technologies that support other missions of  
20 the Department.

21 “(3) GOALS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the  
23 mission and activities of the Office, the Chief  
24 Commercialization Officer appointed under  
25 paragraph (4) shall, with respect to commer-  
26 cialization activities, meet not less than two of

1 the goals described in subparagraph (B) and, to  
2 the maximum extent practicable, meet all of the  
3 goals described in that subparagraph.

4 “(B) GOALS DESCRIBED.—The goals re-  
5 ferred to in subparagraph (A) are the following:

6 “(i) Reduction of greenhouse gas  
7 emissions.

8 “(ii) Ensuring economic competitive-  
9 ness.

10 “(iii) Enhancement of domestic en-  
11 ergy security and national security.

12 “(iv) Enhancement of domestic jobs.

13 “(v) *Any other missions of the Depart-*  
14 *ment, as determined by the Secretary.*

15 “(4) CHIEF COMMERCIALIZATION OFFICER.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be  
17 headed by an officer, who shall be known as the  
18 ‘Chief Commercialization Officer’, and who  
19 shall report directly to, and be appointed by,  
20 the Secretary.

21 “(B) PRINCIPAL ADVISOR.—The Chief  
22 Commercialization Officer shall be the principal  
23 advisor to the Secretary on all matters relating  
24 to technology transfer and commercialization.

1           “(C) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Chief Com-  
2           mercialization Officer”;

3           (2) in subsection (c)—

4           (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “sub-  
5           section (d)” and inserting “subsection (b)”;

6           (B) by redesignating paragraphs (1)  
7           through (4) as clauses (i) through (iv), respec-  
8           tively, and indenting appropriately; and

9           (C) by striking the subsection designation  
10          and heading and all that follows through “The  
11          Coordinator” in the matter preceding clause (i)  
12          (as so redesignated) and inserting the following:

13          “(D) DUTIES.—The Chief Commercializa-  
14          tion Officer”;

15          (3) by adding at the end of subsection (a) (as  
16          amended by paragraph (2)(C)) the following:

17          “(5) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the mis-  
18          sion and activities of the Office, the Chief Commer-  
19          cialization Officer shall coordinate with the senior  
20          leadership of the Department, other relevant *pro-*  
21          *gram* offices of the Department, National Labora-  
22          tories, the Technology Transfer Working Group es-  
23          tablished under subsection (b), the Technology  
24          Transfer Policy Board, and other stakeholders (in-  
25          cluding private industry).”;

1 (4) by redesignating subsections (d) through (h)  
2 as subsections (b) through (f), respectively; and

3 (5) in subsection (f) (as so redesignated), by  
4 striking “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection  
5 (e)”.

6 **SEC. 3. REVIEW OF EMISSION REDUCTION TECHNOLOGY**  
7 **PROGRAMS.**

8 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment  
9 of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall conduct a review  
10 of all emission reduction research and development pro-  
11 grams under the Department of Energy—

12 (1) to identify each program the mission of  
13 which is to develop technologies that reduce emis-  
14 sions;

15 (2) to examine the extent to which the pro-  
16 grams identified under paragraph (1) overlap or are  
17 duplicative;

18 (3) to identify the technologies available to re-  
19 duce emissions that are not covered by any of the  
20 programs identified under paragraph (1); and

21 (4) to develop recommendations as to how over-  
22 lapping or duplicative programs under paragraph (2)  
23 may be combined or restructured to be more effi-  
24 cient.

1 **SEC. 3. REVIEW OF APPLIED ENERGY PROGRAMS.**

2       (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 1 year after the date  
3 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy (referred  
4 to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a review  
5 of all applied energy research and development programs  
6 under the Department of Energy (referred to in this section  
7 as the “Department”) that focus on researching and devel-  
8 oping technologies that reduce emissions.

9       (b) *REQUIREMENTS.*—In conducting the review under  
10 subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

11           (1) identify each program described in that sub-  
12 section the mission of which is to research and de-  
13 velop technologies that reduce emissions;

14           (2) determine the type of services provided by  
15 each program identified under paragraph (1), such as  
16 grants and technical assistance;

17           (3) determine whether there are written program  
18 goals for each program identified under paragraph  
19 (1);

20           (4) examine the extent to which the programs  
21 identified under paragraph (1) overlap or are dupli-  
22 cative; and

23           (5) develop recommendations—

24               (A) as to how any overlapping or duplica-  
25 tive programs identified under paragraph (4)

1           *should be restructured or consolidated, including*  
2           *by any necessary legislation;*

3                   *(B) as to how to identify technologies de-*  
4           *scribed in paragraph (1) that—*

5                           *(i) are not served by a single program*  
6                           *office at the Department; or*

7                           *(ii) the research and development of*  
8                           *which may require collaboration with other*  
9                           *Federal agencies; and*

10                   *(C) for methods to improve the programs*  
11           *identified under paragraph (1), including by es-*  
12           *tablishing program goals, assessing workforce*  
13           *considerations and technical skills, or increasing*  
14           *collaboration with other Federal agencies and*  
15           *stakeholders (including private industry).*

16           *(c) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the Sec-*  
17           *retary completes the review under subsection (a), the Sec-*  
18           *retary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Nat-*  
19           *ural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on*  
20           *Science, Space, and Technology and Energy and Commerce*  
21           *of the House of Representatives a report describing the re-*  
22           *sults of and the recommendations developed under the re-*  
23           *view.*

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