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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to carry out a mentorship demonstration program, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Ms. McCLELLAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to carry out a mentorship demonstration program, 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 “Improving Mentorship  
5       in STEM Higher Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MENTORSHIP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM; NA-**  
2 **TIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION REPORTING.**

3 (a) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Section 10313(a)  
4 of the Research and Development, Competition, and Inno-  
5 vation Act (42 U.S.C. 18993) is amended by adding at  
6 the end the following:

7 “(6) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director may  
9 make awards, including through existing pro-  
10 grams, on a competitive basis to eligible entities  
11 to carry out projects designed to improve  
12 mentorship practices and provide resources for  
13 faculty, graduate researchers, and postdoctoral  
14 researchers at the eligible entity, including with  
15 respect to—

16 “(i) building and developing men-  
17 toring skills in such researchers and fac-  
18 ulty;

19 “(ii) promoting evidence-based and in-  
20 stitutionalized mentorship at the eligible  
21 entity;

22 “(iii) researching methodologies for  
23 improving mentorship;

24 “(iv) training such researchers and  
25 faculty in cultural competencies; and

1 “(v) funding outreach related to such  
2 projects.

3 “(B) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity de-  
4 siring an award under this subsection shall sub-  
5 mit to the Director an application at such time,  
6 in such form, and containing such information  
7 as the Director may require.

8 “(C) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—In mak-  
9 ing awards under this subsection, the Director  
10 shall give special consideration to eligible enti-  
11 ties that are—

12 “(i) minority-serving institutions;

13 “(ii) historically Black colleges and  
14 universities;

15 “(iii) Tribal Colleges or Universities;

16 “(iv) rural-serving institutions of  
17 higher education (as such term is defined  
18 in section 861(b) of the Higher Education  
19 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1161q(b)));

20 “(v) emerging research institutions;  
21 and

22 “(vi) consortia that include institu-  
23 tions described in clauses (i) through (v).

24 “(D) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years  
25 after the date of the enactment of this para-

graph, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate a report that includes—

“(i) an assessment, using qualitative or quantitative metrics as determined by the Director, of the effectiveness of the demonstration program carried out under this paragraph on increasing the quality of mentorship in STEM education; and

“(ii) if such assessment determines that such program is effective, a plan to sustain and permanently implement such program.

“(E) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘eligible entity’ means—

“(i) an institution of higher education (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001));

“(ii) a nonprofit organization; and

1                   “(iii) a consortium of entities de-  
2                   scribed in clauses (i) and (ii).

3           “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
4 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this para-  
5 graph \$5,000,000, for fiscal years 2025 through 2029.”.

6           (b) MISCONDUCT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Sec-  
7 tion 7009 of the America COMPETES Act (42 U.S.C.  
8 1862o-1) is amended—

9           (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as  
10 paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

11           (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-  
12 lowing:

13           “(2) institutional and agency reporting proc-  
14 esses with respect to harassment, discrimination,  
15 and other forms of professional or scientific mis-  
16 conduct;”.