

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6265

To direct the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to update the mission statement of the Commission to ensure licensing and regulation is efficient and is in alignment with the policies stated in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 2023

Mr. DUNCAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to update the mission statement of the Commission to ensure licensing and regulation is efficient and is in alignment with the policies stated in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 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 “NRC Mission Align-  
5 ment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING THE GENERAL WELFARE AND LICENS-**  
2 **ING EFFICIENCY.**

3 (a) MISSION OF THE COMMISSION.—

4 (1) UPDATE.—Not later than 90 days after the  
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Nuclear Regu-  
6 latory Commission shall, while remaining consistent  
7 with the policies of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954  
8 (including to provide reasonable assurance of ade-  
9 quate protection of the public health and safety, to  
10 promote the common defense and security, and to  
11 protect the environment), update the mission state-  
12 ment of the Commission to include that licensing  
13 and regulation of nuclear energy activities be con-  
14 ducted in a manner that is efficient and does not  
15 unnecessarily limit—

16 (A) the potential of nuclear energy to im-  
17 prove the general welfare; and

18 (B) the benefits of nuclear energy tech-  
19 nology to society.

20 (2) REPORT.—Upon completion of the updates  
21 to the mission statement required under paragraph  
22 (1), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall sub-  
23 mit to Congress a report that describes—

24 (A) the updated mission statement; and

25 (B) the guidance that the Nuclear Regu-  
26 latory Commission will provide to staff of the

1 Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ensure ef-  
2 fective performance of such mission.

3 (b) OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION.—

4 Section 203 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974  
5 (42 U.S.C. 5843) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “(a) There”  
7 and inserting the following:

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT; APPOINTMENT OF DIREC-  
9 TOR.—There”;

10 (2) in subsection (b)—

11 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph

12 (1)—

13 (i) by striking “(b) Subject” and in-  
14 serting the following:

15 “(b) FUNCTIONS OF DIRECTOR.—Subject”; and

16 (ii) by striking “delegate including:”

17 and inserting “delegate, including the fol-  
18 lowing:”; and

19 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “for the  
20 discharge of the” and inserting “to fulfill the li-  
21 censing and regulatory oversight”;

22 (3) in subsection (c), by striking “(c) Nothing”  
23 and inserting the following:

24 “(d) RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFE OPERATION OF FA-  
25 CILITIES.—Nothing”; and

1           (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
2           lowing:

3           “(c) LICENSING PROCESS.—In carrying out the prin-  
4           cipal licensing and regulation functions under subsection  
5           (b)(1), the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation shall—

6                   “(1) establish techniques and guidance for eval-  
7                   uating applications for licenses for nuclear reactors  
8                   to support efficient, timely, and predictable reviews  
9                   of applications for such licenses to enable the safe  
10                  and secure use of nuclear reactors;

11                   “(2) maintain the techniques and guidance es-  
12                   tablished under paragraph (1) by periodically assess-  
13                   ing and, if necessary, modifying such techniques and  
14                   guidance; and

15                   “(3) obtain approval from the Commission if es-  
16                   tablishment or modification of the techniques and  
17                   guidance established under paragraph (1) or (2) in-  
18                   volves policy formulation.”.

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