

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7743

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish the “Department of Energy Experienced Worker Program”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 2024

Ms. DEGETTE (for herself and Mr. FULCHER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish the
“Department of Energy Experienced Worker Program”.

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 “Department of Energy
5 Experienced Worker Program Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY EXPERIENCED WORKER**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall es-
9 tablish an experienced worker program, to be known as
10 the “Department of Energy Experienced Worker Pro-

1 gram”, for the purpose of awarding grants and entering
2 into multiyear cooperative agreements to use the talents
3 of individuals in the United States who are age 55 or older
4 and are not employees of the Department of Energy to
5 provide technical, professional, and administrative services
6 to support the mission of the Department of Energy.

7 (b) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law relating to Federal grants and coop-
10 erative agreements, in carrying out the Department
11 of Energy Experienced Worker Program established
12 under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy may
13 make grants to, or enter into multiyear cooperative
14 agreements with, private national nonprofit organi-
15 zations eligible to receive grants under title V of the
16 Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et
17 seq.) to use the talents of individuals in the United
18 States who are age 55 or older and are not employ-
19 ees of the Department of Energy to provide tech-
20 nical, professional, and administrative services to
21 support the mission of the Department of Energy.

22 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—Prior to awarding a
23 grant or entering into a cooperative agreement
24 under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Energy shall

1 ensure that the grant or cooperative agreement
2 would not—

3 (A) result in the displacement of individ-
4 uals currently employed by the Department of
5 Energy, including partial displacement through
6 reduction of non-overtime hours, wages, or em-
7 ployment benefits;

8 (B) result in the use of an individual under
9 the Department of Energy Experienced Worker
10 Program for a job or function in a case in
11 which a Federal employee is in a layoff status
12 from the same or substantially equivalent job
13 within the Department;

14 (C) affect existing contracts for services; or

15 (D) result in the conversion of enrollees in
16 the Department of Energy Experienced Worker
17 Program into employees of the Department.

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