

## Union Calendar No. 724

118<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 9748

[Report No. 118–887]

To require the Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

Mr. D'ESPOSITO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Homeland Security

DECEMBER 16, 2024

Additional sponsor: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee

DECEMBER 16, 2024

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union  
and ordered to be printed

# **A BILL**

To require the Under Secretary of the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a Department-wide policy and process to safeguard research and development from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sensitive information in research and development acquisitions, 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 “Research Security and  
5 Accountability in DHS Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SAFEGUARDING SENSITIVE RESEARCH IN THE DE-**  
7 **PARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 302 of the Homeland Se-  
9 curity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (13), by striking “and” after  
11 the semicolon;

12 (2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period  
13 and inserting “; and”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following new  
15 paragraph:

16 “(15) developing, in coordination with appro-  
17 priate agency officials, a Department-wide policy  
18 and process to safeguard research and development  
19 from unauthorized access to or disclosure of sen-  
20 sitive information in research and development ac-  
21 quisitions.”.

22 (b) GAO REPORT.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year  
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
25 Comptroller General of the United States shall sub-

1 mit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
2 House of Representatives and the Committee on  
3 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the  
4 Senate a report on how the Department has com-  
5 plied with National Security Presidential Memo-  
6 randum–33 (NSPM–33) and adopted the National  
7 Science and Technology Council’s 2022 implementa-  
8 tion guidance.

9 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under  
10 paragraph (1) shall address the following:

11 (A) How the Department of Homeland Se-  
12 curity has complied with disclosure require-  
13 ments outlined in NSPM–33, and how viola-  
14 tions are reported to the relevant executive  
15 agencies, including in the intelligence commu-  
16 nity (as such term is defined in section 3(4) of  
17 the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C.  
18 3003(4)).

19 (B) Coordination and compliance with  
20 guidelines established by the National Science  
21 Foundation, the National Science Technology  
22 Council, the Office of Science and Technology  
23 Policy, and other executive agencies regarding  
24 Federal research security.

1           (C) The role of the Science and Tech-  
2           nology Directorate of the Department regarding  
3           establishing a research security framework for  
4           research and development projects across the  
5           Department.

6           (c) CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 90  
7           days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
8           retary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Com-  
9           mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Representa-  
10          tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-  
11          ernmental Affairs of the Senate a briefing addressing the  
12          development of policies and processes to safeguard De-  
13          partment of Homeland Security research and development  
14          in accordance with paragraph (15) of section 302 of the  
15          Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182), as added  
16          by subsection (a).

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