

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2276

To enhance United States competitiveness in aeronautics, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 31, 2007

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WARNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To enhance United States competitiveness in aeronautics,
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 “Aeronautics Competi-
5 tiveness Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NA-**
7 **TIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINIS-**
8 **TRATION FOR AERONAUTICS.**

9 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
10 hereby authorized to be appropriated for the National Aer-

1 onautics and Space Administration for Science, Aero-
2 nautics, and Exploration and available for Aeronautics Re-
3 search amounts as follows:

4 (1) For fiscal year 2009, \$1,089,000,000.

5 (2) For fiscal year 2010, \$1,198,000,000.

6 (3) For fiscal year 2011, \$1,250,000,000.

7 (b) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—The amounts
8 authorized to be appropriated and available for a fiscal
9 year under subsection (a) for the purposes specified in
10 that subsection are in addition to any other amounts au-
11 thorized to be appropriated and make available for such
12 fiscal year for that purpose.

13 **SEC. 3. ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES IN AERO-**
14 **NAUTICS RESEARCH.**

15 (a) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REQUIRED.—The Admin-
16 istrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Adminis-
17 tration shall establish an advisory committee of experts
18 from the private sector to provide advice and consultation
19 to the Administrator in priorities in aeronautics research
20 conducted by the Administration.

21 (b) MEMBERS.—The members of the advisory com-
22 mittee established under subsection (a) shall include rep-
23 resentatives of commercial aviation groups, general avia-
24 tion groups, aviation labor groups, aeronautics research
25 and development agencies, aircraft and systems manufac-

1 turers, academia, and aircraft and air traffic control sup-
 2 pliers.

3 **SEC. 4. DEVELOPMENT OF AERONAUTICS TECHNOLOGIES**
 4 **TO DEMONSTRATION LEVEL.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Na-
 6 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration shall carry
 7 out activities to develop particular aeronautics tech-
 8 nologies, including technologies for the Next Generation
 9 Air Transportation System, to a level of readiness that
 10 will permit the demonstration of such technologies, or a
 11 system or subsystem model or prototype incorporating
 12 such technologies, in an appropriate environment.

13 (b) CONSULTATION.—The Administrator shall carry
 14 out activities under this section in consultation with the
 15 advisory committee established under section 3.

16 **SEC. 5. AERONAUTICS SCHOLARSHIPS.**

17 (a) EXPANSION OF NUMBER OF NASA AERO-
 18 NAUTICS SCHOLARSHIPS.—Section 431 of the National
 19 Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act
 20 of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16741) is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
 22 section (d); and

23 (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
 24 lowing new subsection (c):

1 “(c) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS.—The
2 maximum number of scholarships awarded under this sec-
3 tion that are in force at any one time may not exceed seven
4 scholarships.”.

5 (b) FELLOWSHIPS FOR GRADUATE RESEARCH IN
6 AVIATION OR AERONAUTICS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the
8 Federal Aviation Administration shall carry out a
9 program to provide fellowships for students enrolled
10 in institutions of higher education in graduate pro-
11 grams in aviation or aeronautics for the conduct by
12 such students of research in aviation or aeronautics.

13 (2) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS.—The
14 maximum number of fellowships awarded under the
15 program that are in force at any one time may not
16 exceed seven fellowships.

17 (3) OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The
18 Administrator shall prescribe such requirements for
19 the program as the Administrator considers appro-
20 priate, including qualifications for the award of fel-
21 lowships under the program and the amount and du-
22 ration of fellowships awarded under the program.

1 **SEC. 6. PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTORS FOR COSTS OF EDU-**
2 **CATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
3 **OF AERONAUTICS WORKFORCES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 139 of title 10, United
5 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2372
6 the following new section:

7 **“§ 2372a. Education and professional development of**
8 **aeronautics workforces: payments to con-**
9 **tractors**

10 “(a) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall
11 prescribe regulations governing the payment, by the De-
12 partment of Defense, of expenses incurred by contractors
13 for costs of education and professional development of
14 their aeronautics workforce.

15 “(b) COSTS ALLOWABLE AS INDIRECT EXPENSES.—
16 The regulations prescribed pursuant to subsection (a)
17 shall provide that costs of education and professional de-
18 velopment of the aeronautics workforce shall be allowable
19 as indirect expenses on covered contracts to the extent
20 that those costs are allocable, reasonable, and not other-
21 wise unallowable by law or under the Federal Acquisition
22 Regulation.

23 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 “(1) The term ‘aeronautics workforce’ means
25 personnel employed as engineers or scientists en-

1 gaged in the development and manufacture of aero-
2 nautics technologies.

3 “(2) The term ‘covered contract’ has the mean-
4 ing given that term in section 23724(1) of this title.

5 “(3)(A) The term ‘education and professional
6 development’, in the case of an aeronautics work-
7 force, means each of the following:

8 “(i) The acquisition by personnel of the
9 workforce of general knowledge of science and
10 engineering.

11 “(ii) The development among personnel of
12 the workforce of powers of reasoning and judge-
13 ment.

14 “(iii) The participation of personnel of the
15 workforce in technical conferences and profes-
16 sional society technical committees relating to
17 aeronautics.

18 “(iv) The participation of personnel of the
19 workforce in government advisory boards or
20 commissions on aeronautics for which partici-
21 pation the government provides no compensation.

22 “(B) The term does not include the acquisition
23 by personnel of an aeronautics workforce of voca-
24 tional or practical skills for an immediate and spe-
25 cific job task or purpose.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 at the beginning of chapter 139 of such title is amended
3 by inserting after the item relating to section 2372 the
4 following new item:

“2372a. Education and professional development of aeronautics workforces: pay-
ments to contractors.”.

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