

PUBLIC LAW 110-69—AUG. 9, 2007

AMERICA COMPETES ACT

Public Law 110–69
110th Congress

An Act

Aug. 9, 2007
[H.R. 2272]

To invest in innovation through research and development, and to improve the competitiveness of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

America
COMPETES Act.
20 USC 9801
note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “America COMPETES Act” or the “America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY; GOVERNMENT-WIDE SCIENCE

- Sec. 1001. National Science and Technology Summit.
- Sec. 1002. Study on barriers to innovation.
- Sec. 1003. National Technology and Innovation Medal.
- Sec. 1004. Semiannual Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Days.
- Sec. 1005. Study of service science.
- Sec. 1006. President’s Council on Innovation and Competitiveness.
- Sec. 1007. National coordination of research infrastructure.
- Sec. 1008. Sense of Congress on innovation acceleration research.
- Sec. 1009. Release of scientific research results.

TITLE II—NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

- Sec. 2001. NASA’s contribution to innovation.
- Sec. 2002. Aeronautics.
- Sec. 2003. Basic research enhancement.
- Sec. 2004. Aging workforce issues program.
- Sec. 2005. Sense of Congress regarding NASA’s undergraduate student research program.
- Sec. 2006. Use of International Space Station National Laboratory to support math and science education and competitiveness.

TITLE III—NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

- Sec. 3001. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 3002. Amendments to the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980.
- Sec. 3003. Manufacturing Extension Partnership.
- Sec. 3004. Institute-wide planning report.
- Sec. 3005. Report by Visiting Committee.
- Sec. 3006. Meetings of Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology.
- Sec. 3007. Collaborative manufacturing research pilot grants.
- Sec. 3008. Manufacturing Fellowship Program.
- Sec. 3009. Procurement of temporary and intermittent services.
- Sec. 3010. Malcolm Baldrige awards.
- Sec. 3011. Report on National Institute of Standards and Technology efforts to recruit and retain early career science and engineering researchers.

sized or medium-sized business or that institution of higher education; and

“(B) may include additional for-profit companies, institutions of higher education, and other organizations, such as national laboratories and nonprofit research institutes, that may or may not contribute non-Federal funds to the project; and

“(5) the term ‘TIP Advisory Board’ means the advisory board established under subsection (k).”

15 USC 278n
note.

(c) **TRANSITION.**—Notwithstanding the repeal made by subsection (a), the Director shall carry out section 28 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278n) as such section was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, with respect to applications for grants under such section submitted before such date, until the earlier of—

(1) the date that the Director promulgates the regulations required under section 28(f) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act, as added by subsection (b); or

(2) December 31, 2007.

SEC. 3013. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY ACT AND OTHER TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) **RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS.**—Section 18 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g-1) is amended by striking “up to 1 per centum of the” and inserting “up to 1.5 percent of the”.

(b) **FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS CLARIFICATION.**—Section 2(b)(4) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 272(b)(4)) is amended by inserting “and grants and cooperative agreements,” after “arrangements.”

(c) **OUTDATED SPECIFICATIONS.**—

(1) **REDEFINITION OF THE METRIC SYSTEM.**—Section 3570 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (derived from section 2 of the Act of July 28, 1866, entitled “An Act to authorize the Use of the Metric System of Weights and Measures” (15 U.S.C. 205; 14 Stat. 339)) is amended to read as follows:

15 USC 205.

“SEC. 3570. METRIC SYSTEM DEFINED.

“The metric system of measurement shall be defined as the International System of Units as established in 1960, and subsequently maintained, by the General Conference of Weights and Measures, and as interpreted or modified for the United States by the Secretary of Commerce.”

(2) **REPEAL OF REDUNDANT AND OBSOLETE AUTHORITY.**—The Act of July 21, 1950, entitled, “An Act To redefine the units and establish the standards of electrical and photometric measurements.” (15 U.S.C. 223 and 224) is hereby repealed.

(3) **STANDARD TIME.**—Section 1 of the Act of March 19, 1918, (commonly known as the “Calder Act”) (15 U.S.C. 261) is amended—

(A) by inserting “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—” before “For the purpose”;

(B) by striking the second sentence and the extra period after it and inserting “Except as provided in section 3(a) of the Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. 260a), the

standard time of the first zone shall be Coordinated Universal Time retarded by 4 hours; that of the second zone retarded by 5 hours; that of the third zone retarded by 6 hours; that of the fourth zone retarded by 7 hours; that of the fifth zone retarded 8 hours; that of the sixth zone retarded by 9 hours; that of the seventh zone retarded by 10 hours; that of the eighth zone retarded by 11 hours; and that of the ninth zone shall be Coordinated Universal Time advanced by 10 hours.”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) COORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘Coordinated Universal Time’ means the time scale maintained through the General Conference of Weights and Measures and interpreted or modified for the United States by the Secretary of Commerce in coordination with the Secretary of the Navy.”.

(4) IDAHO TIME ZONE.—Section 3 of the Act of March 19, 1918, (commonly known as the “Calder Act”) (15 U.S.C. 264) is amended by striking “third zone” and inserting “fourth zone”.

(d) NON-ENERGY INVENTIONS PROGRAM.—Section 27 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278m) is repealed.

SEC. 3014. RETENTION OF DEPRECIATION SURCHARGE.

Section 14 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before “Within”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) RETENTION OF FEES.—The Director is authorized to retain all building use and depreciation surcharge fees collected pursuant to OMB Circular A-25. Such fees shall be collected and credited to the Construction of Research Facilities Appropriation Account for use in maintenance and repair of the Institute’s existing facilities.”.

SEC. 3015. POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS.

Section 19 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g-2) is amended by striking “nor more than 60 new fellows” and inserting “nor more than 120 new fellows”.

TITLE IV—OCEAN AND ATMOSPHERIC PROGRAMS

SEC. 4001. OCEAN AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. 33 USC 893.

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in consultation with the Director of the National Science Foundation and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, shall establish a coordinated program of ocean, coastal, Great Lakes, and atmospheric research and development, in collaboration with academic institutions and other nongovernmental entities, that shall focus on the development of advanced technologies and analytical methods that will promote United States leadership in ocean and atmospheric science and competitiveness in the applied uses of such knowledge.