

**House Report 113-171 - COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2014**

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## **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY**

The Committee recommends \$784,038,000 for NIST, which is \$24,666,000 below fiscal year 2013 and \$144,254,000 below the request.

## **SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES**

The Committee recommends \$609,038,000 for NIST's scientific and technical programs, which is \$476,000 below fiscal year 2013 and \$84,707,000 below the request.

*Advanced manufacturing.*--The Committee understands the critical importance of advanced manufacturing and how investments in research drive innovation, efficiencies, and domestic job growth. The recommendation, therefore, includes funding to expand NIST laboratory efforts to support measurement science and data infrastructure for the manufacture of emerging materials and emerging technologies; precision measurements for manufacturers; and the integration and use of smart manufacturing technologies.

*Cybersecurity research and development and standards.*--Recognizing NIST's critical role in developing cybersecurity standards for both the public and private sectors, the recommendation includes funding to strengthen NIST's core cybersecurity research and development programs.

*Centers of Excellence.*--The recommendation includes up to \$7,000,000 for the Centers of Excellence initiative. The Committee continues to support establishment of Centers focused on innovations in measurement science and new technology developments, including advanced communications, advanced manufacturing, biomanufacturing, cyberphysical systems, and quantitative biology. The Committee encourages NIST to consider the establishment of a Center on enhancing U.S. advanced manufacturing competitiveness and commercialization technologies in carbon nanomanufacturing.

*Web services security.*--The Committee is aware of NIST's efforts to establish standards on security for government cloud computing as published in its 2013 *NIST Cloud Computing Security Reference Architecture*. The Committee directs NIST to provide a report to the Committee no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act regarding national security and economic security vulnerabilities for U.S. government and private sector parties in data storage and the provision of web services, such as cloud computing. This report should include a

focus on the provision of such services by Chinese companies and whether specific mitigation, abatement, or notice provisions are necessary.

*Tornado resistant structures.*--While NIST has made great strides in developing and encouraging the adoption of standards to make buildings more fire, wind and earthquake resistant, the Committee is concerned that insufficient progress has been made in the development and adoption of cost-effective measures to make homes and businesses more disaster resilient in tornado-prone areas of the South, the West and Midwest. The Committee encourages NIST to expand its current research to develop tornado resistant buildings, including inexpensive safe house modular rooms that could be quickly adopted by the construction industry.

*Canine detection standards.*--The Committee recognizes detection canine teams play a critical role in law enforcement and homeland security efforts yet no widely accepted standards or protocols exist on the breeding, training, and deployment of detection canine teams. The Committee encourages NIST to continue its existing research programs on canine olfactory detection of explosives and to collaborate with subject matter experts in academia, the private sector, and Federal, State, and local stakeholders as appropriate to develop breeding, training, and deployment standards and protocols for detection canine teams.

*Lyme disease.*--The Committee is pleased that NIST is planning a workshop to develop measurements to more accurately assess the presence of acute and chronic Lyme disease and encourages NIST to continue research efforts in this area.

*Textile research.*--The Committee recognizes the importance of the U.S. textile industry and encourages NIST to pursue advanced textile and apparel research and manufacturing activities.

## **INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

The Committee includes \$120,000,000 for industrial technology services, which is \$20,316,000 below fiscal year 2013 and \$54,507,000 below the request. This amount includes \$120,000,000 for the MEP program, which is \$6,088,000 below the fiscal year 2013 enacted level and \$33,078,000 below the request. The Committee reiterates its support for the MEP program which helps U.S. businesses streamline manufacturing techniques and increase efficiency and profits through training resources as well as specific project assistance to the U.S. domestic manufacturing industry. The Committee expects NIST to work with the IG to resolve issues contained in prior audits of various MEP centers.

*Supplier scouting initiative.*--The Committee encourages NIST to provide sufficient resources to MEP's supplier scouting initiative to maintain or expand current partnerships with Federal agencies.

*National Innovation Marketplace.*--Within the amount provided for the MEP program for fiscal year 2014, not less than \$2,500,000 is for the National Innovation

Marketplace (NIM), a web-based tool developed by NIST to help companies, communities, colleges and universities, inventors, and entrepreneurs accelerate supply chain connections and facilitate partnerships, helping to create jobs in the U.S. The Committee commends the Department for its efforts to increase participation in the NIM and notes that more than \$2 billion in buying opportunities and more than \$900 million in innovation business opportunities have been posted to the NIM. Furthermore, NIST has also used this endeavor to leverage the efforts of other Federal agencies. For example, MBDA staff and business clients can access, utilize, and contribute to the NIM, and NIST also works with MBDA through the Interagency Network of Enterprise Assistance Providers, in which staff meet monthly to exchange information and share best practices. The Committee encourages the Department to continue and expand upon its NIM-related efforts with other agencies and directs the Department to report to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act on the status of overall efforts to expand the usage and capabilities of the NIM.

## **CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES**

The Committee recommends \$55,000,000 for NIST construction, which is \$3,874,000 below fiscal year 2013 and \$5,040,000 below the request.

*Boulder Building 1 renovation.*--The Committee is aware of recent developments with respect to the phased renovations at the Boulder facility. NIST shall continue to provide updates on the status of renovations at its Boulder, Colorado, facility, to include obligations and expenditures of prior year funds, no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act.

*Safety, Capacity, Maintenance, and Major Repairs.*--NIST shall continue to provide updates on the projects funded within this account, to include milestones and total amount of funding necessary for completion. These updates shall also include a description of projects previously funded between fiscal years 2009 and 2013, to include a report on the obligations and expenditures of funds associated with each activity. NIST shall also provide a status report, including obligations and expenditures, of projects funded with the \$180,000,000 NIST received in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) to address NIST's backlog of maintenance and renovation projects.

*General Purpose Laboratories.*--The Committee is aware that NIST has initiated a study to optimize existing space at its General Purpose Laboratories. NIST shall make this study available to the Committee when completed.