

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 119-33**

**OFFERED BY MRS. BICE OF OKLAHOMA**

Add at the end of title XVII the following:

1 **Subtitle C—National Biotechnology**  
2 **Initiative**

3 **SEC. 1731. AUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIONAL BIO-**  
4 **TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE.**

5 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 10401 of title IV of divi-  
6 sion B of the Research and Development, Competition,  
7 and Innovation Act (Public Law 117-167; 42 U.S.C.  
8 19131) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as  
10 paragraphs (6) and (9), respectively;

11 (2) by inserting after “title:” the following new  
12 paragraphs:

13 “(1) BIOLITERACY.—The term ‘bioliteracy’ re-  
14 fers to the concept of imbuing people, personnel, or  
15 teams with an understanding of and ability to en-  
16 gage with biology and biotechnology.

17 “(2) BIOLOGICAL DATA.—The term ‘biological  
18 data’ means the information, including associated  
19 descriptors, derived from the structure, function, or

1 process of a biological system(s) that is either meas-  
2 ured, collected, or aggregated for analysis.

3 “(3) BIOMANUFACTURING.—The term ‘bio-  
4 manufacturing’ means the application of bio-  
5 technology to manufacturing.

6 “(4) BIOTECHNOLOGY.—The term ‘bio-  
7 technology’ means the application of science and en-  
8 gineering in the direct or indirect use of living orga-  
9 nisms, or parts or products of living organisms, in-  
10 cluding modified forms.

11 “(5) DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL BIO-  
12 TECHNOLOGY COORDINATION OFFICE.—The term  
13 ‘Director of the National Biotechnology Coordination  
14 Office’ means the individual appointed pursuant to  
15 section 10408(b)(2)(A).”;

16 (3) in paragraph (6), as so redesignated, by  
17 striking the period and adding “, unless otherwise  
18 specified.”;

19 (4) by inserting after paragraph (6), as so re-  
20 designating, the following new paragraphs:

21 “(7) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—The term  
22 ‘Interagency Committee’ means the interagency com-  
23 mittee designated pursuant to section 10403(a)(1).



1           “(2) DESIGNATION.—The initiative imple-  
2           mented pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be known as  
3           the ‘National Biotechnology Initiative’ (in this sec-  
4           tion referred to as ‘the Initiative’).

5           “(3) PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.—The following  
6           shall be participants of the Initiative:

7                   “(A) The Department of Agriculture.

8                   “(B) The Department of Commerce.

9                   “(C) The Department of Defense.

10                  “(D) The Department of Energy.

11                  “(E) The Department of Health and  
12           Human Services.

13                  “(F) The Environmental Protection Agen-  
14           cy.

15                  “(G) The National Aeronautics and Space  
16           Administration.

17                  “(H) The National Science Foundation.

18           “(b) ACTIVITIES.—Each head of a participating de-  
19           partment or agency shall carry out the Initiative, including  
20           by carrying out the activities required by section 10411  
21           and by addressing and coordinating the following:

22                   “(1) Federal activities relating to biotechnology,  
23           including to create and maintain a national strategy  
24           on biotechnology.

1           “(2) National security implications of emerging  
2           biotechnology.

3           “(3) Sustained support for research and devel-  
4           opment related to biological, physical, chemical,  
5           data, computational, and information sciences and  
6           engineering that accelerates scientific understanding  
7           and technological innovation in biotechnology.

8           “(4) Sustained support for biological data,  
9           databases, and related tools as a strategic national  
10          resource.

11          “(5) Private sector translation and commer-  
12          cialization of products that are produced with bio-  
13          technology.

14          “(6) Regulatory streamlining for products that  
15          are produced with biotechnology.

16          “(7) Biosafety and biosecurity issues associated  
17          with emerging biotechnology.

18          “(8) Development of a domestic workforce, in-  
19          cluding the Federal workforce, to advance bio-  
20          technology across the United States.

21          “(9) Bioliteracy activities that provide clear,  
22          easy-to-find information for policymakers,  
23          innovators, and the public and support evidence-  
24          based public discourse related to any benefits and  
25          risks of biotechnology.

1           “(10) International partnerships, including reg-  
2           ulatory and commercial diplomacy.

3           “(11) Such other activities relating to bio-  
4           technology as the Director of the National Bio-  
5           technology Coordination Office and the Interagency  
6           Committee jointly determine are needed to advance  
7           national security, economic productivity, and com-  
8           petitiveness relating to biotechnology.

9   **“SEC. 10409. INITIATIVE COORDINATION.**

10   “(a) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—

11           “(1) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 180 days  
12           after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
13           President shall, acting through the Executive Office  
14           of the President, designate an interagency committee  
15           to coordinate activities of the Initiative.

16           “(2) DUTIES.—Each member of the Inter-  
17           agency Committee shall—

18                   “(A) work with the Director of the Na-  
19                   tional Biotechnology Coordination Office to  
20                   oversee the planning, management, and coordi-  
21                   nation of the Initiative;

22                   “(B) ensure the department or agency of  
23                   the member supports the Initiative through rel-  
24                   evant activities set forth under section 10411;

1           “(C) keep the other members of the Inter-  
2           agency Committee apprised of the activities de-  
3           scribed in subparagraph (B); and

4           “(D) communicate activities of the Inter-  
5           agency Committee with relevant components of  
6           the Department or agency of the member.

7           “(3) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Com-  
8           mittee shall include 1 member at the Assistant Sec-  
9           retary level from each participating agency selected  
10          by the head of the participating agency.

11          “(4) CO-CHAIRPERSONS.—

12           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency Com-  
13          mittee shall have 3 co-chairpersons, of whom—

14           “(i) one co-chairperson shall be the  
15          Director of the National Biotechnology Co-  
16          ordination Office; and

17           “(ii) two co-chairpersons shall be se-  
18          lected by the members of the Interagency  
19          Committee from among the members of  
20          the Interagency Committee.

21          “(B) TERMS.—Each co-chairperson se-  
22          lected pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii) shall  
23          serve a term of 2 years, except for the first  
24          term the Interagency Committee shall select

1 one co-chairperson to serve a term of 3 years,  
2 such that subsequent terms are staggered.

3 “(C) VACANCIES.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy under  
5 this paragraph shall be filled in the man-  
6 ner in which the original appointment was  
7 made and shall be subject to any condi-  
8 tions that applied with respect to the origi-  
9 nal appointment.

10 “(ii) FILLING UNEXPIRED TERM.—An  
11 individual chosen to fill a vacancy shall be  
12 appointed for the unexpired term of the co-  
13 chairperson replaced.

14 “(D) QUORUM.—A majority of the mem-  
15 bers of the Interagency Committee shall con-  
16 stitute a quorum for the purposes of voting for  
17 co-chairpersons under clauses (i)(II) and (ii)(II)  
18 of subparagraph (A), with co-chairpersons se-  
19 lected by the member who receives the highest  
20 plurality of votes.

21 “(E) LIMITATION.—A member of the  
22 Interagency Committee from a particular Fed-  
23 eral department or agency may not serve con-  
24 secutive terms as co-chairperson of the Inter-  
25 agency Committee.

1       “(b) NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY COORDINATION  
2 OFFICE.—

3               “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL BIO-  
4 TECHNOLOGY COORDINATION OFFICE.—

5                       “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180  
6 days after the date of the enactment of this  
7 Act, the President shall establish an office in  
8 the Executive Office of the President to support  
9 the Initiative.

10                      “(B) DESIGNATION.—The office estab-  
11 lished pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be  
12 known as the ‘National Biotechnology Coordi-  
13 nation Office’.

14               “(2) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY  
15 COORDINATION OFFICE.—

16                      “(A) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 180  
17 days after the date of the enactment of this  
18 Act, the President shall appoint an individual to  
19 serve as the Director of the National Bio-  
20 technology Coordination Office.

21                      “(B) DUTIES.—The duties of the Director  
22 of the National Biotechnology Coordination Of-  
23 fice are as follows:

24                               “(i) To serve as the principal advisor  
25 to the President for biotechnology.

1           “(ii) To administer the functions of  
2           the Office set forth under paragraph (3).

3           “(C) AUTHORITIES.—In support of the  
4           Initiative, the Director may—

5           “(i) advise the Director of the Office  
6           of Management and Budget for the pur-  
7           poses of tracking and adjusting agency  
8           spending relating to biotechnology, includ-  
9           ing to ensure that Federal efforts are com-  
10          plementary and not duplicative;

11          “(ii) convene members of the Inter-  
12          agency Committee in order to advance and  
13          coordinate Federal activities relating to  
14          biotechnology;

15          “(iii) coordinate Federal regulation of  
16          products that are produced with bio-  
17          technology;

18          “(iv) select, appoint, employ, and fix  
19          the compensation of such officers and em-  
20          ployees as are necessary and prescribe  
21          their duties;

22          “(v) enter into and perform such con-  
23          tracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or  
24          other transactions, as appropriate, to the  
25          conduct of the work of the Office;

1           “(vi) utilize, with their consent, the  
2           services, personnel, and facilities of other  
3           Federal agencies; and

4           “(vii) accept voluntary and uncompen-  
5           sated services, notwithstanding the provi-  
6           sions of section 1342 of title 31, United  
7           States Code.

8           “(3) FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE.—

9           “(A) PLANNING AND COORDINATION.—  
10          The functions of the Office, in coordination  
11          with participating department and agencies,  
12          shall be to support the Initiative with respect to  
13          planning and coordinating the following:

14               “(i) Working with the Interagency  
15               Committee to oversee the planning, man-  
16               agement, and coordination of Federal ac-  
17               tivities relating to biotechnology.

18               “(ii) Serving as the point of contact  
19               with respect to Federal biotechnology ac-  
20               tivities for government organizations, aca-  
21               demia, industry, professional societies,  
22               State governments, interested citizen  
23               groups, and others to exchange technical  
24               and programmatic information.

1           “(iii) Providing technical and adminis-  
2           trative support to the Interagency Com-  
3           mittee.

4           “(iv) Assessing the landscape and  
5           gaps associated with the different compo-  
6           nents of the Initiative.

7           “(v) Coordinating a fellowship pro-  
8           gram in which Federal employees are de-  
9           tailed to 1 or more Federal agencies to  
10          gain greater understanding of bio-  
11          technology activities outside of their home  
12          agency.

13          “(vi) Building and maintaining a co-  
14          ordinated website for Federal activities re-  
15          lating to biotechnology pursuant to sub-  
16          section (c).

17          “(vii) Coordinating development of an  
18          annual report under subsection (d) and a  
19          national strategy as required by subsection  
20          (e).

21          “(viii) Conducting such other activi-  
22          ties to support the Initiative as the Direc-  
23          tor considers appropriate.

24          “(B) NATIONAL SECURITY.—Functions re-  
25          lating to national security as follows:

1           “(i) Assessing and addressing the na-  
2           tional security and economic security impli-  
3           cations of emerging biotechnology.

4           “(ii) Identifying and remedying any  
5           major needs or information gaps in current  
6           national security assessments and activi-  
7           ties, including to conduct counterintel-  
8           ligence efforts to fill gaps relating to bio-  
9           technology.

10           “(iii) Providing coordination in ad-  
11           dressing foreign investments and acquisi-  
12           tion from adversarial countries.

13           “(C) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—  
14           Functions relating to research and development  
15           as follows:

16           “(i) Coordinating sustained support  
17           for research and development that acceler-  
18           ates scientific understanding and techno-  
19           logical innovation in biotechnology.

20           “(ii) Facilitating joint agency sollicita-  
21           tions for funding for individual grants, col-  
22           laborative grants, and interdisciplinary re-  
23           search centers.

24           “(iii) Developing and proposing focus  
25           areas or challenges for research funding

1 meant to advance biotechnology, particu-  
2 larly relating to convergence with other  
3 technologies such as artificial intelligence.

4 “(iv) Developing, standardizing, and  
5 deploying robust mechanisms for docu-  
6 menting and quantifying the outputs and  
7 economic benefits of biotechnology.

8 “(D) DATA AND DATABASES.—Functions  
9 relating to data and databases as follows:

10 “(i) Coordinating sustained support  
11 for biological data, databases, and related  
12 tools as a strategic national resource to ad-  
13 vance human health and the understanding  
14 of animals, plants, microbes, and other or-  
15 ganisms.

16 “(ii) Recommending actions to inte-  
17 grate security into biological data access  
18 and international reciprocity agreements.

19 “(iii) Coordinating frameworks for bi-  
20 ological data standardization to create  
21 datasets that are interoperable and usable  
22 by advanced computation methods such as  
23 artificial intelligence.

1           “(E)   PRODUCT   COMMERCIALIZATION.—  
2           Functions relating to product commercialization  
3           as follows:

4                   “(i) Strategizing and coordinating on  
5                   private sector translation and commer-  
6                   cialization of products that are produced  
7                   with biotechnology.

8                   “(ii) Assisting in coordinating a na-  
9                   tional network of testbeds to enable scale-  
10                  up of biotechnology research.

11           “(F)   REGULATORY   STREAMLINING.—  
12           Functions relating to regulatory streamlining as  
13           follows:

14                   “(i) Coordinating the easing of regu-  
15                   latory burden for types of biotechnology  
16                   products that have become well-understood  
17                   by regulators, including products that  
18                   could have occurred naturally or been de-  
19                   veloped with conventional means.

20                   “(ii) Negotiating interagency agree-  
21                   ments that describe clear regulatory path-  
22                   ways for each type of biotechnology prod-  
23                   uct, with information about timelines, deci-  
24                   sion points, expected data requirements,  
25                   clear hand-offs between agencies, and

1 other information deemed necessary by the  
2 Office to resolve regulatory gaps, overlaps,  
3 and ambiguities for biotechnology prod-  
4 ucts.

5 “(iii) Providing regular status updates  
6 to the Office of Management and Budget  
7 as to the development of clear regulatory  
8 pathways, and in the event that the Office  
9 and the Interagency Committee cannot  
10 reach timely agreement on a clear regu-  
11 latory pathway for any product type, as-  
12 sisting the Director of the Office of Man-  
13 agement and Budget in carrying out para-  
14 graph (5).

15 “(iv) Not later than 1 year after the  
16 date of the enactment of this Act, jointly  
17 with the Interagency Committee developing  
18 and making available to the public a plan  
19 for regulatory streamlining.

20 “(G) BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY.—  
21 Functions relating to biosafety and biosecurity  
22 as follows:

23 “(i) Developing strategies and coordi-  
24 nating to address biosafety and biosecurity

1 issues associated with emerging bio-  
2 technology.

3 “(ii) Coordinating on assessment and  
4 mitigation of potential biosafety and bio-  
5 security threats relating to biotechnology  
6 research, including through collaboration  
7 with regulatory agencies and industry.

8 “(H) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.—Func-  
9 tions relating to workforce development as fol-  
10 lows:

11 “(i) Coordinating and developing  
12 strategies to develop a domestic workforce  
13 for biotechnology.

14 “(ii) Coordinating with appropriate  
15 agencies to establish a national bio-  
16 technology workforce framework to define  
17 biotechnology jobs and skills in public and  
18 private sectors.

19 “(iii) Coordinating with appropriate  
20 agencies to conduct an interagency assess-  
21 ment of biotechnology workforce needs,  
22 and subsequently developing and providing  
23 training programs.

24 “(I) BIOLITERACY.—Functions relating to  
25 bioliteracy as follows:

1           “(i) Coordinating development of  
2 plain-language materials about bio-  
3 technology.

4           “(ii) Providing central locations, in-  
5 cluding the website required by subsection  
6 (c), for clear, easy-to-find information  
7 about biotechnology for policymakers,  
8 innovators, and the public.

9           “(J) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—  
10 Functions relating to international partnerships  
11 as follows:

12           “(i) Coordinating Federal regulatory  
13 and commercial diplomacy activities.

14           “(ii) Assessing the current regulatory  
15 and commercial diplomacy activities car-  
16 ried out across the Federal Government,  
17 identifying gaps, and developing an out-  
18 reach strategy to improve the regulatory  
19 landscape and market access for products  
20 of the United States.

21           “(iii) Identifying non-regulatory solu-  
22 tions for trade and market access concerns  
23 (such as the use of identity preservation  
24 for certain agricultural biotechnology prod-  
25 ucts) and working with relevant govern-

1                   ment agencies and stakeholders to imple-  
2                   ment solutions.

3                   “(K) OTHER.—Such other activities as the  
4                   Director considers necessary to advance na-  
5                   tional security, economic productivity, and com-  
6                   petitiveness related to biotechnology.

7                   “(4) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Director  
8                   of the National Science Foundation shall provide  
9                   support for the administration and implementation  
10                  of the Initiative, including—

11                  “(A) appointing and providing compensa-  
12                  tion for employees of the Office, without regard  
13                  to any provision relating to appointment or  
14                  compensation under title 5, United States Code,  
15                  including—

16                  “(i) deputy directors as needed to ad-  
17                  dress the responsibilities in paragraph (3),  
18                  as determined necessary by the Director of  
19                  the Office; and

20                  “(ii) other appropriate employees, in-  
21                  cluding experts in the science of bio-  
22                  technology, biotechnology policy, regulatory  
23                  policy, and science communication, legal  
24                  counsel, and software designers and devel-

1           opers, as determined necessary by the Di-  
2           rector of the Office;

3           “(B) fixing the compensation of employees  
4           of the Office in an amount that does not exceed  
5           the amount of annual compensation (excluding  
6           expenses) specified in section 102 of title 3,  
7           United States Code;

8           “(C) detailing employees of the National  
9           Science Foundation to the Office and receiving  
10          the detail of employees from other agencies to  
11          the Office; and

12          “(D) assistance with other costs associated  
13          with running the Initiative, including physical  
14          space, other staff, and overhead support.

15          “(5) REGULATORY STREAMLINING BY OFFICE  
16          OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.—In the event that  
17          the Office and the Interagency Committee cannot  
18          reach timely agreement on a clear regulatory path-  
19          way for a product type, as described in paragraph  
20          (3)(F)(iii), the Director of the Office of Management  
21          and Budget shall—

22                 “(A) identify overlaps, gaps, or ambiguities  
23                 in the regulation for such product type;

24                 “(B) negotiate an interagency agreement  
25                 that describes a clear regulatory pathway for

1 such product type, with information about  
2 timelines, decision points, expected data re-  
3 quirements, clear hand-offs between agencies,  
4 and other information deemed necessary by the  
5 Office of Management and Budget to resolve  
6 regulatory gaps, overlaps, and ambiguities; and

7 “(C) recommend and oversee rulemaking  
8 or changes to guidance as needed to implement  
9 clear regulatory pathways.

10 “(6) WIND-DOWN.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall wind-  
12 down its activities on the date that is 20 years  
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and  
14 transition to serving as an executive secretariat  
15 for the Initiative.

16 “(B) WIND-DOWN ACTIVITIES.—The ac-  
17 tivities specified in this clause are as follows:

18 “(i) The transfer of authorities, re-  
19 quirements, resources, personnel, and obli-  
20 gations of the Office to the fullest extent  
21 possible to the Interagency Committee and  
22 such elements of the Federal Government  
23 as the Director and the Interagency Com-  
24 mittee considers appropriate.

1           “(ii) The Office shall maintain au-  
2           thorities, requirements, resources, per-  
3           sonnel, and obligations necessary to serve  
4           as the executive secretariat for the Initia-  
5           tive, including to continue the coordination  
6           in subsection (b)(3)(A), the website in sub-  
7           section (c), and any other activities that  
8           the Director and the Interagency Com-  
9           mittee considers appropriate.

10           “(C) TREATMENT OF TRANSFERRED  
11           FUNCTIONS.—Commencing on the date on  
12           which the Office is terminated under subpara-  
13           graph (A), any reference to a requirement or an  
14           authority of the Office that has been trans-  
15           ferred to the Interagency Committee or an ele-  
16           ment of the Federal Government shall be treat-  
17           ed as a reference to the Interagency Committee  
18           or the element of the Federal Government to  
19           which such requirement or authority was trans-  
20           ferred pursuant to subparagraph (B).

21           “(c) WEBSITE.—

22           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 540 days  
23           after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-  
24           rector of the National Biotechnology Coordination  
25           Office and the Interagency Committee shall jointly

1       develop and publish for the public a single, coordi-  
2       nated Federal website for biotechnology that adheres  
3       to best practices for website design, development,  
4       and maintenance.

5               “(2) CONTENTS.—The website developed and  
6       published pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include  
7       the following:

8                       “(A) A dashboard of Federal Government  
9       activities relating to biotechnology, including in-  
10      formation about open funding opportunities.

11                      “(B) Plain-language information about bio-  
12      technology, including information for policy-  
13      makers, innovators, trading partners, and the  
14      public.

15                      “(C) A mechanism for stakeholders to ask  
16      a question and receive a single, coordinated re-  
17      sponse.

18                      “(D) Mechanisms, which may be populated  
19      over time, to provide consolidated information  
20      about biotechnology product regulation, focus-  
21      ing on products that are regulated by more  
22      than 1 Federal agency, with content that in-  
23      cludes the following:

24                               “(i) A repository of interagency agree-  
25      ments that describe clear regulatory path-

1                   ways, with links to relevant regulations  
2                   and guidance documents for each type of  
3                   biotechnology product.

4                   “(ii) A repository of regulatory deci-  
5                   sion documents for biotechnology products.

6                   “(iii) A digital portal that allows sub-  
7                   mission of a single application and infor-  
8                   mation sharing between Federal agencies.

9                   “(3) UPDATES.—The Director and the Inter-  
10                  agency Committee shall jointly update the website  
11                  required by paragraph (1) periodically.

12                  “(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

13                  “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
14                  the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less  
15                  frequently than once each year thereafter, except in  
16                  years in which a national strategy for biotechnology  
17                  is required under subsection (e), the Director of Na-  
18                  tional Biotechnology Coordination Office and the  
19                  Interagency Committee shall jointly submit to the  
20                  Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-  
21                  tation of the Senate and the Committee on Science,  
22                  Space, and Technology of the House of Representa-  
23                  tives an annual report on the Initiative.

1           “(2) CONTENTS.—Each annual report sub-  
2           mitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include, for  
3           the period covered by the report, the following:

4                   “(A) An inventory and accounting of Fed-  
5                   eral Government activities and spending in sup-  
6                   port of the Initiative.

7                   “(B) Actions that the Director and the  
8                   Interagency Committee plan to take in support  
9                   of the Initiative in the next fiscal year.

10          “(e) NATIONAL STRATEGY.—

11               “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years  
12               after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not  
13               less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter,  
14               the Director of National Biotechnology Coordination  
15               Office and the Interagency Committee shall jointly  
16               make available to the public and submit to the Com-  
17               mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of  
18               the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space,  
19               and Technology of the House of Representatives a  
20               comprehensive national strategy for biotechnology.

21               “(2) ELEMENTS.—Each national strategy made  
22               available and submitted pursuant to paragraph (1)  
23               shall cover the following:

24                   “(A) Actions, goals, and priorities to ad-  
25                   vance the Initiative and how each participating

1 department or agency will integrate bio-  
2 technology into any strategies of each such par-  
3 ticipating departments or agencies.

4 “(B) Activities that are an urgent priority  
5 to advance biotechnology in the United States  
6 but not currently being conducted by Federal  
7 agencies, with an estimated 5-year budget for  
8 those activities.

9 “(C) Recommendations for legislative or  
10 administrative action to advance biotechnology  
11 in the United States.

12 “(D) An inventory of all Federal Govern-  
13 ment databases with biological data with an as-  
14 sessment that identifies opportunities—

15 “(i) to improve the utility of such  
16 databases, in a manner that does not com-  
17 promise national security or the privacy  
18 and security of information within such  
19 databases; and

20 “(ii) to inform investment in such  
21 databases as critical infrastructure for the  
22 biotechnology research enterprise.

23 “(E) An assessment of United States com-  
24 petitiveness in biotechnology relative to peer  
25 countries, including—

1                   “(i) contributions of biotechnology to  
2                   United States economic growth and other  
3                   societal indicators;

4                   “(ii) contributions of biotechnology to  
5                   economic growth in other countries, espe-  
6                   cially peer-competitors; and

7                   “(iii) current barriers to commer-  
8                   cialization of biotechnology products, proc-  
9                   esses, and tools in the United States.

10                  “(F) A national biological data strategy to  
11                  ensure biotechnology research fully leverages  
12                  plant, animal, and microbe biodiversity, as ap-  
13                  propriate and in a manner that does not com-  
14                  promise economic competitiveness, national se-  
15                  curity, or the privacy or security of human ge-  
16                  netic information.

17                  “(G) The information that is required as a  
18                  part of the annual report required by subsection  
19                  (d).

20                  “(f) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—The Comp-  
21                  troller General of the United States shall—

22                  “(1) not later than 3 years after the date of the  
23                  enactment of this Act, begin a review to assess the  
24                  efficacy of interagency coordination and fulfillment

1 of the activities conducted by the Office and the  
2 Interagency Committee under the Initiative;

3 “(2) not later than 3.5 years after the date of  
4 the enactment of this Act, provide Congress a brief-  
5 ing on the initial findings of the Comptroller General  
6 with respect to the activities described in paragraph  
7 (1);

8 “(3) not later than 4 years after the date of the  
9 enactment of this Act, submit to the Committee on  
10 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-  
11 ate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-  
12 nology of the House of Representatives a report with  
13 recommendations to improve the Initiative; and

14 “(4) repeat the process outlined in paragraphs  
15 (1), (2), and (3) every 5 years thereafter until the  
16 date that is 20 years after the date of the enactment  
17 of this Act.

18 “(g) INITIATIVE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
19 ‘Initiative’ means the Initiative implemented pursuant to  
20 section 10408(a)(1).

21 **“SEC. 10410. CONVENING OF EXPERTS ON BIOTECHNOLOGY**  
22 **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

23 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National  
24 Biotechnology Coordination Office may, in consultation  
25 with the Interagency Committee, convene experts to assess

1 and inform the activities of the Initiative in a time and  
2 manner as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Di-  
3 rector.

4 “(b) ASSESSMENT.—The experts described in sub-  
5 section (a) may carry out an assessment that includes in-  
6 formation related to the following:

7 “(1) The state of the competitiveness of the  
8 United States in biotechnology, including with re-  
9 spect to the scope and scale of investments by the  
10 United States in biotechnology research and develop-  
11 ment in the international context.

12 “(2) Any current market barrier to the com-  
13 mercialization of biotechnology products, processes,  
14 and tools in the United States.

15 “(3) Any progress made with respect to the Ini-  
16 tiative.

17 “(4) Whether the Initiative should be revised.

18 “(5) The activities and funding of the Initiative.

19 “(6) Whether the national strategies described  
20 under section 10409(e) are helping to maintain  
21 United States leadership in biotechnology.

22 “(7) Whether ethical, legal, and other appro-  
23 priate societal issues are adequately addressed by  
24 the Initiative.

1       “(c) APPLICATION OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-  
2 MITTEE ACT.—Section 1013 of title 5, United States  
3 Code, shall not apply to the convening of experts under  
4 this section.

5       “(d) INITIATIVE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
6 ‘Initiative’ means the Initiative implemented pursuant to  
7 section 10408(a)(1).

8       **“SEC. 10411. AGENCY ACTIVITIES.**

9       “(a) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—As part of  
10 the Initiative, the Director of the National Science shall  
11 carry out the following:

12               “(1) Support research in biotechnology and bio-  
13 manufacturing through individual grants, collabo-  
14 rative grants, and through interdisciplinary research  
15 centers.

16               “(2) Support research related to the environ-  
17 mental, legal, ethical, and social implications of bio-  
18 technology.

19               “(3) Provide support for research instrumenta-  
20 tion, equipment, and cyberinfrastructure for bio-  
21 technology disciplines, including support for re-  
22 search, development, optimization, and validation of  
23 novel technologies to enable the dynamic study of  
24 molecular processes in situ.

1           “(4) Support the development of curriculum  
2           and research experiences for secondary, under-  
3           graduate, and graduate students with respect to bio-  
4           technology and biomanufacturing, including through  
5           support for graduate fellowships and traineeships in  
6           biotechnology.

7           “(5) Award grants, on a competitive basis, to  
8           enable institutions to support graduate students and  
9           postdoctoral fellows who perform biotechnology re-  
10          search in part or in whole in an industry setting.

11          “(b) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.—As part of the  
12          Initiative, the Secretary of Commerce shall carry out the  
13          following:

14                 “(1) Acting through the Director of the Na-  
15                 tional Institute of Standards and Technology, carry  
16                 out the following:

17                         “(A) Advance the development of standard  
18                         reference materials and measurements related  
19                         to biotechnology, including to promote inter-  
20                         operability between new component tech-  
21                         nologies, processes related to biotechnology, and  
22                         discovery, innovation, and production processes  
23                         related to biomanufacturing.

1           “(B) Establish data tools, techniques, and  
2 processes necessary to advance biotechnology  
3 and biomanufacturing.

4           “(C) Provide to industry, institutions of  
5 higher education, nonprofit organizations, and  
6 government agencies access to user facilities  
7 with advanced or unique equipment, services,  
8 materials, and other resources to perform re-  
9 search and testing related to biotechnology.

10           “(D) Provide technical expertise related to  
11 the potential development of guidelines or safe-  
12 guards for new products, processes, and sys-  
13 tems of biotechnology.

14           “(2) Acting through the Administrator of the  
15 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,  
16 carry out the following:

17           “(A) Conduct and support research in  
18 omics and associated bioinformatic sciences and  
19 develop tools and products to improve eco-  
20 system stewardship, monitoring, management,  
21 assessments, and forecasts, consistent with the  
22 mission of the agency.

23           “(B) Collaborate with other Federal agen-  
24 cies to understand potential environmental  
25 threats and safeguards related to biotechnology.

1           “(c) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—As part of the Ini-  
2 tiative, the Secretary of Energy shall carry out the fol-  
3 lowing:

4           “(1) Conduct and support research, develop-  
5 ment, demonstration, and commercial application ac-  
6 tivities in biotechnology, including in the areas of  
7 synthetic biology, advanced biofuel and bioproduct  
8 development, biobased materials, and environmental  
9 remediation.

10           “(2) Support the development, optimization and  
11 validation of novel, scalable tools and technologies to  
12 enable the dynamic study of molecular processes in  
13 situ.

14           “(3) Provide to industry, institutions of higher  
15 education, nonprofit organizations, and government  
16 agencies to perform research and testing access to  
17 user facilities with advanced or unique equipment,  
18 services, materials, and other resources, including  
19 secure access to high-performance computing, as ap-  
20 propriate.

21           “(4) Strengthen collaboration between the Of-  
22 fice of Science and the Office of Critical Minerals  
23 and Energy Innovation to transfer fundamental re-  
24 search results to industry and accelerate commercial  
25 applications.

1           “(d) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—As part of the  
2 Initiative, the Secretary of Defense shall carry out the fol-  
3 lowing:

4           “(1) Conduct and support research and devel-  
5 opment in biotechnology and data and information  
6 sciences related to biotechnology.

7           “(2) Support the development of curriculum  
8 and research experiences in biotechnology and data  
9 and information sciences related to biotechnology in  
10 the military education system, including the service  
11 academies, professional military education, and mili-  
12 tary graduate education.

13           “(3) Assess risks of potential national security  
14 and economic security threats relating to bio-  
15 technology.

16           “(e) NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINIS-  
17 TRATION.—As part of the Initiative, the Administrator of  
18 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall  
19 carry out the following:

20           “(1) Conduct and support research in bio-  
21 technology (including in synthetic biology) and re-  
22 lated to Earth and space sciences, aeronautics, space  
23 technology, and space exploration and experimen-  
24 tation, in accordance with any priorities established  
25 in the decadal surveys of the National Academies.

1           “(2) Award grants, on a competitive basis, that  
2           enable institutions to support graduate students and  
3           postdoctoral fellows who perform biotechnology re-  
4           search in whole or in part in an industry setting.

5           “(f) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—As part of  
6           the Initiative, the Secretary of Agriculture shall support  
7           research and development in biotechnology through the  
8           Agricultural Research Service, the National Institute of  
9           Food and Agriculture programs and grants, and the Office  
10          of the Chief Scientist.

11          “(g) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.—As  
12          part of the Initiative, the Administrator of the Environ-  
13          mental Protection Agency shall support research related  
14          to how products, processes, and systems of biotechnology  
15          will affect or can protect the environment.

16          “(h) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERV-  
17          ICES.—As part of the Initiative, the Secretary of Health  
18          and Human Services shall carry out the following:

19                 “(1) Support research and development to ad-  
20                 vance the understanding and application of bio-  
21                 technology for human health.

22                 “(2) Support relevant interdisciplinary research  
23                 and coordination.

1           “(i) INITIATIVE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
2 ‘Initiative’ means the Initiative implemented pursuant to  
3 section 10408(a)(1).”.

4           (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—Public Law 117–167  
5 is amended in the table of contents in sections 1 and  
6 10000 by inserting after the items relating to section  
7 10408 the following new items:

“Sec. 10408. Authorization of the National Biotechnology Initiative.

“Sec. 10409. Initiative coordination.

“Sec. 10410. Convening of experts on biotechnology research and development.

“Sec. 10411. Agency activities.”.

