



AMENDMENT TO H.R. 6395
OFFERED BY MS. SHERRILL OF NEW JERSEY

At the appropriate place in title II, add the following
new section:

1 **SEC. 2 __ . TRAINEESHIPS FOR AMERICAN LEADERS TO**
2 **EXCEL IN NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND**
3 **SCIENCE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, acting
5 through the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and
6 Engineering, shall establish a traineeship program to ex-
7 pand Department of Defense access to domestic scientific
8 and technological talent in areas of strategic importance
9 to national security.

10 (b) DESIGNATION.—The traineeship program estab-
11 lished under subsection (a) shall be known as the
12 “Traineeships for American Leaders to Excel in National
13 Technology and Science” or “TALENTS program” (re-
14 ferred to in this section as the “traineeship program”).

15 (c) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—The Secretary, in con-
16 sultation with the Defense Science Board and the Defense
17 Innovation Board, shall determine the multidisciplinary
18 fields of study on which the traineeship program will focus
19 and, in making such determination, shall consider the core

1 modernization priorities derived from the most recent na-
2 tional defense strategy provided under section 113(g) of
3 title 10, United States Code.

4 (d) PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary
5 shall establish partnerships with not fewer than ten eligi-
6 ble institutions selected by the Secretary for the purposes
7 of the program under subsection (a).

8 (e) PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES.—The activities con-
9 ducted under the partnerships under subsection (d) be-
10 tween an eligible institution and the Department of De-
11 fense shall include—

12 (1) providing traineeships led by faculty for eli-
13 gible students described in subsection (h); and

14 (2) establishing scientific or technical internship
15 programs for such students.

16 (f) PREFERENCE IN SELECTION OF INSTITUTIONS.—
17 In establishing partnerships under subsection (d), the Sec-
18 retary shall consider—

19 (1) the relevance of the eligible institution's
20 proposed partnership to existing and anticipated
21 strategic national needs, as determined under sub-
22 section (c);

23 (2) the ability of the eligible institution to effec-
24 tively carry out the proposed partnership;

1 (3) the geographic location of an eligible insti-
2 tution as it relates to the need of the Department
3 of Defense to develop specific workforce capacity and
4 skills within a particular region of the country;

5 (4) whether the eligible institution is a covered
6 minority institution;

7 (5) the extent to which the eligible institution's
8 proposal would—

9 (A) include students underrepresented in
10 the fields of science, technology, engineering,
11 and mathematics; or

12 (B) involve partnering with one or more
13 covered minority institutions; and

14 (6) the integration of internship opportunities
15 into the program provided by the eligible institution,
16 including internships with government laboratories,
17 non-profit research organizations, and for-profit
18 commercial entities.

19 (g) GRANTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide
21 grants to individuals who are eligible students de-
22 scribed in subsection (h) to—

23 (A) participate in activities under sub-
24 section (e);

1 (B) pay tuition, fees, and other costs asso-
2 ciated with participating in such activities;

3 (C) pay other costs associated with partici-
4 pating in the traineeship program; and

5 (D) pay costs associated with other sci-
6 entific or technical internship or fellowship pro-
7 grams.

8 (2) AWARD TOTALS.—The total amount of
9 grants awarded to individuals at an eligible institu-
10 tion under this section in each fiscal year shall not
11 exceed \$1,000,000.

12 (3) DURATION.—The duration of each grant
13 under this section shall not exceed four years.

14 (h) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.—In order to receive any
15 grant under this section, a student shall—

16 (1) be a citizen or national of the United States
17 or a permanent resident of the United States;

18 (2) be enrolled or accepted for enrollment at an
19 eligible institution in a masters or doctoral degree
20 program in a field of study determined under sub-
21 section (c); and

22 (3) if the student is presently enrolled at an in-
23 stitution, be maintaining satisfactory progress in the
24 course of study the student is pursuing in accord-

1 ance section 484(c) of the Higher Education Act of
2 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1091(c)).

3 (i) PREFERENTIAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HIR-
4 ING.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Director of
5 the Office of Personnel Management, shall develop and
6 implement a process by which traineeship program partici-
7 pants shall receive preferred consideration in hiring activi-
8 ties conducted by the Department of Defense and each
9 Department of Defense Laboratory.

10 (j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) The term “eligible institution” means an in-
12 stitution of higher education (as defined in section
13 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
14 U.S.C. 1001)).

15 (2) The term “covered minority institution” has
16 the meaning given the term “covered institution” in
17 section 262(g)(2) of the National Defense Author-
18 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–
19 92; 10 U.S.C. 2362 note).

20 (3) The term “Department of Defense Labora-
21 tory” means—

22 (A) a laboratory operated by the Depart-
23 ment of Defense or owned by the Department
24 of Defense and operated by a contractor; or

1 (B) a facility of a Defense Agency (as de-
2 fined in section 101(a) of title 10, United
3 States Code) at which research and develop-
4 ment activities are conducted.

