

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3642

To amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to document operational requirements, assist with national voluntary consensus standards, and conduct technology research to advance a nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 13, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Ms. EDWARDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to document operational requirements, assist with national voluntary consensus standards, and conduct technology research to advance a nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Public Safety
3 Broadband Network Enabling Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND NETWORK STAND-**
5 **ARDS AND RESEARCH.**

6 The National Institute of Standards and Technology
7 Act is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating section 34 as section 35;
9 and

10 (2) by inserting after section 33 the following:

11 **“SEC. 34. PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND NETWORK STAND-**
12 **ARDS, RESEARCH, AND DEMONSTRATION**
13 **TESTBED.**

14 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

15 “(1) document operational requirements for a
16 nationwide interoperable public safety broadband
17 network;

18 “(2) if necessary and practical, help to accel-
19 erate the development of national voluntary con-
20 sensus standards for a nationwide interoperable pub-
21 lic safety broadband network, including standards
22 that address the requirements documented under
23 paragraph (1);

24 “(3) conduct research and assist with the devel-
25 opment of technologies and applications to advance
26 wireless public safety communications; and

1 “(4) continue to develop and maintain a dem-
2 onstration testbed for use by manufacturers, pro-
3 viders of commercial mobile services (as defined in
4 section 332 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
5 U.S.C. 332)), and public safety agencies to evaluate
6 advanced broadband communications equipment and
7 software for use by the public safety community.

8 “(b) RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out sub-
9 section (a)(3), the Director shall—

10 “(1) accelerate the development of communica-
11 tion capabilities between currently deployed public
12 safety narrowband systems and a nationwide inter-
13 operable public safety broadband network;

14 “(2) seek to develop technologies, processes,
15 and architectures that improve network security, re-
16 siliency, and trustworthiness; and

17 “(3) develop and implement a research road-
18 map that addresses the wireless communications
19 needs of public safety entities beyond what can be
20 provided by the current generation of broadband
21 technology.

22 “(c) COORDINATION.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the activi-
24 ties described in this section, the Director shall co-

1 ordinate with relevant Federal agencies, the private
2 sector, and public safety organizations.

3 “(2) WORKING GROUPS.—The Director shall
4 convene working groups of relevant government and
5 commercial stakeholders to achieve the requirements
6 of this section, as appropriate.”.

7 **SEC. 3. SPECTRUM AUCTION PROCEEDS.**

8 From any trust fund established in the Treasury of
9 the United States after October 1, 2011, consisting of pro-
10 ceeds from the auction of electromagnetic spectrum, there
11 shall be made available to the Director of the National
12 Institute of Standards and Technology, without further
13 appropriation, \$300,000,000 to carry out section 34 of the
14 National Institute of Standards and Technology Act, as
15 amended by section 2. Such amount shall remain available
16 until expended.

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