

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1193

To establish a grant program at the Department of Homeland Security to promote cooperative research and development between the United States and Israel on cybersecurity.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 15, 2021

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To establish a grant program at the Department of Homeland Security to promote cooperative research and development between the United States and Israel on cybersecurity.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “United States-Israel
5 Cybersecurity Cooperation Enhancement Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

1 (1) the term “cybersecurity research” means re-
2 search, including social science research, into ways
3 to identify, protect against, detect, respond to, and
4 recover from cybersecurity threats;

5 (2) the term “cybersecurity technology” means
6 technology intended to identify, protect against, de-
7 tect, respond to, and recover from cybersecurity
8 threats;

9 (3) the term “cybersecurity threat” has the
10 meaning given the term in section 102 of the Cyber-
11 security Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C.
12 1501);

13 (4) the term “Department” means the Depart-
14 ment of Homeland Security; and

15 (5) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
16 of Homeland Security.

17 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES-ISRAEL CYBERSECURITY CO-**
18 **OPERATION.**

19 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—

20 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in ac-
21 cordance with the agreement entitled the “Agree-
22 ment between the Government of the United States
23 of America and the Government of the State of
24 Israel on Cooperation in Science and Technology for
25 Homeland Security Matters”, dated May 29, 2008

(or successor agreement), and the requirements specified in paragraph (2), shall establish a grant program at the Department to support—

(A) cybersecurity research and development; and

(B) demonstration and commercialization of cybersecurity technology.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) APPLICABILITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in carrying out a research, development, demonstration, or commercial application program or activity that is authorized under this section, the Secretary shall require cost sharing in accordance with this paragraph.

(B) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Secretary shall require not less than 50 percent of the cost of a research, development, demonstration, or commercial application program or activity described in subparagraph (A) to be provided by a non-Federal source.

(ii) REDUCTION.—The Secretary may reduce or eliminate, on a case-by-case

basis, the percentage requirement specified in clause (i) if the Secretary determines that such reduction or elimination is necessary and appropriate.

(C) MERIT REVIEW.—In carrying out a research, development, demonstration, or commercial application program or activity that is authorized under this section, awards shall be made only after an impartial review of the scientific and technical merit of the proposals for such awards has been carried out by or for the Department.

(D) REVIEW PROCESSES.—In carrying out a review under subparagraph (C), the Secretary may use merit review processes developed under section 302(14) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 182(14)).

(3) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—An applicant shall be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection if the project of such applicant—

(A) addresses a requirement in the area of cybersecurity research or cybersecurity technology, as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) is a joint venture between—

(i)(I) a for-profit business entity, academic institution, National Laboratory (as such term is defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801)), or nonprofit entity in the United States; and

(II) a for-profit business entity, academic institution, or nonprofit entity in Israel; or

(ii)(I) the Federal Government; and

(II) the Government of Israel.

(4) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, an applicant shall submit to the Secretary an application for such grant in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary, in consultation with the advisory board established under paragraph (5).

(5) ADVISORY BOARD.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish an advisory board to—

(i) monitor the method by which grants are awarded under this subsection; and

1 (ii) provide to the Secretary periodic
2 performance reviews of actions taken to
3 carry out this subsection.

4 (B) COMPOSITION.—The advisory board
5 established under subparagraph (A) shall be
6 composed of 3 members, to be appointed by the
7 Secretary, of whom—

8 (i) one shall be a representative of the
9 Federal Government;

10 (ii) one shall be selected from a list of
11 nominees provided by the United States-
12 Israel Binational Science Foundation; and

13 (iii) one shall be selected from a list
14 of nominees provided by the United States-
15 Israel Binational Industrial Research and
16 Development Foundation.

17 (6) CONTRIBUTED FUNDS.—Notwithstanding
18 any other provision of law, the Secretary may accept
19 or retain funds contributed by any person, govern-
20 ment entity, or organization for purposes of carrying
21 out this subsection. Such funds shall be available,
22 subject to appropriation, without fiscal year limita-
23 tion.

24 (7) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
25 the date of completion of a project for which a grant

1 is provided under this subsection, the grant recipient
2 shall submit to the Secretary a report that con-
3 tains—

4 (A) a description of how the grant funds
5 were used by the recipient; and

6 (B) an evaluation of the level of success of
7 each project funded by the grant.

8 (8) CLASSIFICATION.—Grants shall be awarded
9 under this subsection only for projects that are con-
10 sidered to be unclassified by both the United States
11 and Israel.

12 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
13 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section not
14 less than \$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through
15 2026.

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