

116TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

{ REPORT
{ 116-617

WILLIAM M. (MAC) THORNBERRY
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

CONFERENCE REPORT

TO ACCOMPANY

H.R. 6395



DECEMBER 3, 2020.—Ordered to be printed

Extension of pilot program on unavailability for overhead costs of amounts specified for laboratory-directed research and development (sec. 3162)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3114) that would extend by 1 year a pilot program that prohibits the use of funds made available for laboratory-directed research and development for general and administrative overhead costs of the laboratory.

The Senate amendment contained a similar provision (sec. 3152) that would make permanent the prohibition and extend it to nuclear weapons production facilities.

The Senate recedes with an amendment that would extend the pilot program by 5 years.

SUBTITLE H—OTHER MATTERS

Independent study on potential environmental effects of nuclear war (sec. 3171)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3117) that would require the Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study on the non-fallout atmospheric effects of nuclear explosions. The study would assess the strengths and weaknesses of existing models in the areas of fire effects, soot generation and transport, radioactivity, and the atmospheric transfer of gasses. The provision would require the National Academies to submit a report on the study to the Administrator and the congressional defense committees no later than 18 months after the enactment of this Act. The provision would also require the Secretary of Defense to provide to the National Academies such information as necessary for the conduct of the study.

The Senate amendment contained no similar provision.

The Senate recedes with an amendment that would require the study to be conducted in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence and would require the Director to provide to the National Academies such information as necessary for the conduct of the study.

Review of future of computing beyond exascale at the National Nuclear Security Administration (sec. 3172)

The Senate amendment contained a provision (sec. 3156) that would require the Administrator of the National Nuclear