

[H.R. 1637, Federally Funded Research and Development Sunshine Act of 2015, as amended](#)

FLOOR SITUATION

On Tuesday, June 23, 2015, the House will consider [H.R. 1637](#), *the Federally Funded Research and Development Sunshine Act of 2015, as amended*, under suspension of the rules. H.R. 1637 was introduced on March 25, 2015, by Rep. John Ratcliffe (R-TX) and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, which ordered the bill reported by voice vote on May 20, 2015.

SUMMARY

H.R. 1637 requires the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to provide Congress an annual list of ongoing and completed projects that federally funded research and development centers within the Department have been tasked to complete. The bill requires the Department to use existing funds to carry out its requirements and specifies that no new funds are authorized for these purposes.

BACKGROUND

“The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC) perform research and development for DHS and its components. The FFRDCs are tasked with these projects through the Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate at DHS. Currently, S&T is not required to share with Congress information on the projects assigned to FFRDCs.”¹ The bill requires DHS to provide certain congressional committees in the House and Senate a list of the ongoing and completed projects tasked to FFRDCs to ensure better oversight of these projects.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that implementing H.R. 1637 would not significantly affect spending by the Department. Because enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

¹ [House Report 114-149](#) at 2.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information please contact [Jerry White](#) with the House Republican Policy Committee by email or at 5-0190.