



AMENDMENT NO. _____

Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To improve the bill

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—117th Cong., 1st Sess.**S. 1260**

To establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. SCHATZ

Viz:

1 On page 64, strike lines 5 through 12 and insert the
2 following:

3 (d) INNOVATION.—

4 (1) GRADUATE EDUCATION.—In carrying out
5 this section, the Director shall encourage innovation
6 in graduate education, and studying the impacts of
7 such innovations, including through encouraging in-
8 stitutions of higher education to offer graduate stu-
9 dents opportunities to gain experience in industry or
10 government as part of their graduate training, and

1 through support for students in professional masters
2 programs related to the key technology focus areas.

3 (2) POSTDOCTORAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP-
4 MENT.—In carrying out this section, the Director
5 shall encourage innovation in postdoctoral profes-
6 sional development, support the development and di-
7 versity of the STEM workforce, and study the im-
8 pacts of such innovation and support. To do so, the
9 Director may use postdoctoral awards established
10 under subsection (a) or leveraged under subsection
11 (e)(1) for fellowships or other temporary rotational
12 postings of not more than 2 years. Such fellowships
13 or temporary rotational postings shall be awarded—

14 (A) to qualified individuals who have a
15 doctoral degree and received such degree not
16 earlier than 5 years before the date that the fel-
17 lowship or temporary rotational posting begins;
18 and

19 (B) to carry out research in the key tech-
20 nology focus areas at Federal, State, local, and
21 Tribal government research facilities.

22 (3) DIRECT HIRE AUTHORITY.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal year
24 2021 and any fiscal year thereafter, the head of
25 any Federal agency may appoint, without re-

1 gard to the provisions of subchapter I of chap-
2 ter 33 of title 5, United States Code, other than
3 sections 3303 and 3328 of that title, a qualified
4 candidate described in subparagraph (B) di-
5 rectly to a position in the competitive service
6 with the Federal agency for which the can-
7 didate meets Office of Personnel Management
8 qualification standards.

9 (B) FELLOWSHIP OR TEMPORARY ROTA-
10 TIONAL POSTING.—Subparagraph (A) applies
11 with respect to a former recipient of an award
12 under this subsection who—

13 (i) earned a doctoral degree in a
14 STEM field from an institution of higher
15 education; and

16 (ii) successfully fulfilled the require-
17 ments of the fellowship or temporary rota-
18 tional posting within a Federal agency.

19 (C) LIMITATION.—The direct hire author-
20 ity under this paragraph shall be exercised with
21 respect to a specific qualified candidate not
22 later than 2 years after the date that the can-
23 didate completed the requirements related to
24 the fellowship or temporary rotational posting
25 described under this subsection.