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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To update the role of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in the licensing and oversight of nuclear reactor facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. HARSHBARGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To update the role of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in the licensing and oversight of nuclear reactor facilities, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Nuclear Advisory Com-
5 mittee Reform Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 29 of the Atomic Energy
8 Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2039) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “There is” and inserting the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is”;

4 (2) by inserting “(referred to in this section as
5 the ‘Committee’).” after “Reactor Safeguards”;

6 (3) by striking “consisting of” and all that fol-
7 lows; and

8 (4) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall consist of
10 a maximum of 15 members, to be appointed by the Com-
11 mission, who shall represent a diverse background of tech-
12 nical expertise relevant to the mission of the Commission.

13 “(c) TERMS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
15 graph (2), the Commission may appoint a member
16 of the Committee for not more than 2 terms of 4
17 years each.

18 “(2) EXCEPTION.—The Commission may ap-
19 point a member of the Committee for more than 2
20 terms if the Commission determines that there is a
21 compelling need for the member’s continued service.

22 “(3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall
23 apply with respect to members appointed after the
24 date of enactment of the Nuclear Advisory Com-
25 mittee Reform Act.

1 “(d) COMMITTEE ACTIONS.—The Committee shall
2 take the following actions:

3 “(1) Review applications and submit reports in
4 accordance with section 182 b..

5 “(2) Advise the Commission, as specifically re-
6 quested by the Commission, with respect to—

7 “(A) the hazards of proposed or existing
8 reactor facilities; and

9 “(B) the adequacy of proposed reactor
10 safety standards.

11 “(3) Perform such other duties as the Commis-
12 sion may specifically request.

13 “(e) FOCUS OF COMMITTEE.—In taking an action
14 pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (d),
15 the Committee shall, to the extent practicable, focus on
16 issues that—

17 “(1) directly relate to reactor design;

18 “(2) are safety significant;

19 “(3) are novel; and

20 “(4) have not been previously acted on by the
21 Committee.

22 “(f) POLICIES FOR EFFICIENT AND TIMELY AC-
23 TION.—The Commission shall maintain and, if necessary,
24 modify policies to ensure efficient and timely action by the

1 Committee, including efficient and timely coordination be-
2 tween the Committee and staff of the Commission.

3 “(g) PROPOSALS FROM THE COMMITTEE.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Committee may pro-
5 pose to the Commission that the Committee take an
6 action pursuant to subsection (d).

7 “(2) COMMISSION REQUEST REQUIRED.—The
8 Committee may not take an action proposed under
9 paragraph (1) unless the Commission specifically re-
10 quests the Committee take the action pursuant to
11 subsection (d).

12 “(h) CHAIRPERSON.—The Commission shall des-
13 ignate 1 member of the Committee as the Chairperson of
14 the Committee.

15 “(i) PER DIEM.—The members of the Committee
16 shall receive—

17 “(1) a per diem compensation for each day
18 spent in meetings, conferences, or other work of the
19 Committee; and

20 “(2) compensation for necessary traveling or
21 other expenses while engaged in the work of the
22 Committee.

23 “(j) APPLICABILITY.—Section 163 shall apply to the
24 Committee.”.

1 (b) LICENSE APPLICATION REVIEW.—Section 182 b.
2 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2232(b))
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 “b. REVIEW BY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR
5 SAFEGUARDS.—The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safe-
6 guards established under section 29 shall—

7 “(1) if the Commission specifically requests, re-
8 view—

9 “(A) an application for a license under sec-
10 tion 103 or subsection a., b., or c. of section
11 104; and

12 “(B) an application for an amendment to
13 a license issued under section 103 or subsection
14 a., b., or c. of section 104; and

15 “(2) submit to the Commission a report with
16 respect to a review carried out under paragraph (1),
17 which shall be made part of the record of the appli-
18 cable application and available to the public, except
19 to the extent that security classification prevents dis-
20 closure.”.

21 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

22 (1) ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—Section 163 of
23 the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2203) is
24 amended—

1 (A) by striking “members of the General
2 Advisory committee established pursuant to sec-
3 tion 26 and the”; and

4 (B) by striking “sections 281, 283, or
5 284” and inserting “sections 203, 205, or
6 207”.

7 (2) TEMPORARY OPERATING LICENSE.—Section
8 192 a. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C.
9 2242(a)) is amended—

10 (A) by striking “Safeguards required by
11 section 182 b.,” and inserting “Safeguards sub-
12 mitted under section 182 b. (if applicable);”;
13 and

14 (B) by striking “and the Nuclear Regu-
15 latory Commission staff’s first supplement to
16 the report prepared in response to the report of
17 the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
18 for the facility” and inserting “, and the Nu-
19 clear Regulatory Commission staff’s first sup-
20 plement to the report prepared in response to
21 the report of the Advisory Committee on Reac-
22 tor Safeguards for the facility (if applicable)”.