

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7139

To direct the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to commission a study on the impact of the activities of China on standards for emerging technologies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2020

Mr. SCHWEIKERT (for himself and Mr. BERA) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To direct the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to commission a study on the impact of the activities of China on standards for emerging technologies.

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 “Ensuring American
5 Leadership over International Standards Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Standards serve as the building blocks for
2 product development and help ensure functionality,
3 interoperability, and safety.

4 (2) Global cooperation and coordination on
5 standards for emerging technologies will be critical
6 for having a consistent set of rules to enable market
7 competition, preclude barriers to trade, and allow in-
8 novation to flourish.

9 (3) China’s “Standardization Reform Plan”
10 and “Five-Year Plan for Standardization” highlight
11 its high-level goals to establish China as a “stand-
12 ards power” by 2020, participate in at least half of
13 all standards drafting and revision efforts in recog-
14 nized international standards setting organizations,
15 and to strengthen China’s participation in the gov-
16 ernance of international standards setting organiza-
17 tions.

18 (4) As emerging technologies develop for global
19 deployment, it is critical that the United States and
20 its allies continue to shape standards that underpin
21 the technologies themselves, and the future inter-
22 national governance of these technologies.

23 (5) United States position on standardization in
24 emerging technologies will be critical to United
25 States economic competitiveness.

1 (6) NIST is in a unique position to strengthen
2 United States leadership in standards development,
3 particularly for emerging technologies, to ensure
4 continuing United States economic competitiveness
5 and national security.

6 **SEC. 3. EXTERNAL STUDY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Na-
9 tional Institute of Standards and Technology shall enter
10 into an agreement with the National Academies of
11 Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study,
12 and make recommendations with respect to the impact of
13 Chinese government policies and standards development
14 on international bodies engaged in developing and setting
15 international standards for emerging technologies. The
16 study may include—

17 (1) an assessment of how China’s role in inter-
18 national standards setting organizations has grown
19 over the previous 10 years, including in leadership
20 roles in standards-drafting technical committees, and
21 the quality or value of that participation;

22 (2) an assessment of the impact of China’s
23 standardization strategy, as identified in the “Chi-
24 nese Standard 2035” on international bodies en-
25 gaged in developing and setting standards for select

1 emerging technologies, such as advanced commu-
2 nication technologies or cloud computing and cloud
3 services;

4 (3) an examination of whether international
5 standards for select emerging technologies are being
6 designed to promote Chinese government interests
7 that are expressed in the “Made in China 2025”
8 plan to the exclusion of other participants;

9 (4) an examination of how the previous prac-
10 tices China has utilized while participating in inter-
11 national standards setting organizations may foretell
12 how China will engage in international standardiza-
13 tion activities of critical technologies like artificial
14 intelligence and quantum information science, and
15 what may be the consequences;

16 (5) recommendations on how the United States
17 can take steps to mitigate Chinese influence in inter-
18 national standards-setting bodies and identify voting
19 strategies with respect to international consensus
20 standards for advanced wireless communications
21 technologies and other critical technologies; and

22 (6) any other areas the Academies believe is im-
23 portant to address.

24 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The agreement entered
25 into under subsection (a) shall require the National Acad-

1 emies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to, not later
2 than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act—

3 (1) submit to the Committee on Science, Space,
4 and Technology of the House of Representatives and
5 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
6 portation of the Senate a report containing the find-
7 ings and recommendations of the review conducted
8 under subsection (a); and

9 (2) make a copy of such report available on a
10 publicly accessible website.

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to the Director to carry
13 out this section \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.

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