

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To establish the Commission on American Quantum Information Science
Dominance, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To establish the Commission on American Quantum
Information Science Dominance, 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 “Quantum Leadership
5 in Emerging Applications and Policy Act of 2025” or the
6 “Quantum LEAP Act of 2025”.

7 **SEC. 2. COMMISSION ON AMERICAN QUANTUM INFORMA-**
8 **TION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DOMI-**
9 **NANCE.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby established,
2 as of the date specified in paragraph (2), an inde-
3 pendent commission in the legislative branch of the
4 Federal Government to examine and make rec-
5 ommendations with respect to emerging quantum in-
6 formation science as it pertains to current and fu-
7 ture missions and activities of the United States
8 Government and the private sector.

9 (2) DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT.—The date of
10 establishment referred to in paragraph (1) is the
11 date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment
12 of this Act.

13 (3) DESIGNATION.—The commission estab-
14 lished by paragraph (1) shall be known as the
15 “Commission on American Quantum Information
16 Science and Technology Dominance” (in this section
17 referred to as the “Commission”).

18 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

19 (1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be
20 composed of 12 members appointed as follows:

21 (A) Two members appointed by the Chair-
22 man of the Committee on Commerce, Science,
23 and Transportation of the Senate, 1 of whom is
24 a Member of the Senate and 1 of whom is not.

1 (B) Two members appointed by the Rank-
2 ing Member of the Committee on Commerce,
3 Science, and Transportation of the Senate, 1 of
4 whom is a Member of the Senate and 1 of
5 whom is not.

6 (C) Two members appointed by the Chair-
7 man of the Committee on Science, Space, and
8 Technology of the House of Representatives, 1
9 of whom is a Member of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives and 1 of whom is not.

11 (D) Two members appointed by the Rank-
12 ing Member of the Committee on Science,
13 Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-
14 resentatives, 1 of whom is a Member of the
15 House of Representatives and 1 of whom is not.

16 (E) One member appointed by the majority
17 leader of the Senate.

18 (F) One member appointed by the minority
19 leader of the Senate.

20 (G) One member appointed by the Speaker
21 of the House of Representatives.

22 (H) One member appointed by the minor-
23 ity leader of the House of Representatives.

24 (2) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—Members
25 shall be appointed to the Commission under para-

1 graph (1) not later than 45 days after the Commis-
2 sion establishment date specified under subsection
3 (a)(2).

4 (3) EFFECT OF LACK OF APPOINTMENT BY AP-
5 POINTMENT DATE.—If 1 or more of the appoint-
6 ments under paragraph (1) is not made by the ap-
7 pointment date specified in paragraph (2), the au-
8 thority to make such appointment or appointments
9 shall expire, and the number of members of the
10 Commission shall be reduced by the number equal to
11 the number of appointments so not made.

12 (4) QUALIFICATIONS.—The members of the
13 Commission who are not members of Congress and
14 who are appointed under paragraph (1) shall be in-
15 dividuals from private civilian life who are recog-
16 nized experts and have relevant professional experi-
17 ence in matters relating to—

18 (A) diverse modalities and applications of
19 emerging quantum information science and as-
20 sociated technologies;

21 (B) use of emerging quantum information
22 science and associated technologies by national
23 policy makers and business leaders; or

1 (C) the implementation, funding, or over-
2 sight of the national and economic security poli-
3 cies of the United States.

4 (c) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—

5 (1) CHAIR.—The Chairman of the Committee
6 on the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
7 Transportation of the Senate and the Chairman of
8 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
9 portation of the House of Representatives shall
10 jointly designate 1 member of the Commission to
11 serve as Chair of the Commission.

12 (2) VICE CHAIR.—The Ranking Member of the
13 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
14 tation of the Senate and the Ranking Member of the
15 Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the
16 House of Representatives shall jointly designate 1
17 member of the Commission to serve as Vice Chair of
18 the Commission.

19 (d) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT AND VACANCIES.—
20 Members of the Commission shall be appointed for the life
21 of the Commission. A vacancy in the Commission shall not
22 affect its powers and shall be filled in the same manner
23 as the original appointment was made.

24 (e) REVIEW.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall carry
2 out a review of advances in emerging quantum infor-
3 mation science and associated technologies. In car-
4 rying out such review, the Commission shall consider
5 the methods, means, and investments necessary to
6 advance and secure the development of quantum in-
7 formation science and associated technologies by the
8 United States to comprehensively address the na-
9 tional and economic security needs of the United
10 States.

11 (2) COORDINATION.—The Commission shall co-
12 ordinate with Federal agencies relevant to the Na-
13 tional Quantum Strategy, including the Department
14 of Commerce, the Department of Energy, the Na-
15 tional Institute of Standards and Technology, the
16 National Quantum Coordination Office within the
17 Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Depart-
18 ment of Defense, and the National Science Founda-
19 tion.

20 (3) SCOPE.—In conducting the review required
21 by paragraph (1), the Commission shall consider the
22 following:

23 (A) The global competitiveness of the
24 United States in quantum information science
25 and associated technologies, including matters

1 relating to national security, economic security,
2 defense, domestic supply chain, public-private
3 partnerships, and investments.

4 (B) Means, methods, and investments for
5 the United States to maintain and protect a
6 technological advantage in quantum information
7 science and associated technologies relating to
8 national security and defense.

9 (C) Developments and trends in inter-
10 national cooperation and competitiveness, in-
11 cluding foreign investments in quantum infor-
12 mation science and associated technologies that
13 are scientifically and materially related to na-
14 tional security, economic security, and defense.

15 (D) Means by which to foster greater em-
16 phasis and investments in basic and advanced
17 research to stimulate government, industry,
18 academic and combined initiatives in quantum
19 information science, and associated tech-
20 nologies.

21 (E) Means by which to foster greater em-
22 phasis and investments in advanced develop-
23 ment and test and evaluation of quantum infor-
24 mation science-enabled capabilities to stimulate
25 the growth of the United States quantum infor-

1 mation science commercial industry, while also
2 supporting and improving acquisition and adop-
3 tion of quantum information science tech-
4 nologies for national security purposes.

5 (F) Barriers to commercialization and rec-
6 ommended mechanisms to accelerate technology
7 transfer, Federal procurement, and industry ac-
8 cess to Federal testbeds.

9 (G) Workforce and education incentives
10 and programs to attract, recruit, and retain
11 leading talent in fields relevant to the develop-
12 ment and sustainment of quantum information
13 science technologies.

14 (H) Means to establish international
15 standards for the use of quantum information
16 science application.

17 (I) Means to establish data sharing capa-
18 bilities within and amongst government, indus-
19 try, and academia to foster collaboration and
20 accelerate innovation, while maintaining privacy
21 and security for data as required for national
22 security, intellectual property, and personal pro-
23 tection purposes.

24 (J) Consideration of the transformative po-
25 tential and rapidly-changing developments of

1 quantum information science technologies and
2 appropriate mechanisms for managing such
3 technology related to national security, eco-
4 nomic security, and defense.

5 (K) Means by which to advance all quan-
6 tum information science technologies and mo-
7 dalities.

8 (L) Comparison of the near-term applica-
9 tions development programs in the United
10 States compared to those of other countries.

11 (M) Any other matters the Commission
12 deems relevant.

13 (f) COMMISSION REPORT AND RECOMMENDA-
14 TIONS.—

15 (1) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than the date
16 that is 2 years after the Commission establishment
17 date specified in subsection (a)(2), the Commission
18 shall submit to Congress and the President a final
19 report on the findings of the Commission and such
20 recommendations as the Commission may have for
21 administrative or legislative action.

22 (2) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than the date
23 that is 1 year after the Commission establishment
24 date specified in subsection (a)(2), the Commission
25 shall submit to Congress and the President an in-

1 interim report on the status of the review being car-
2 ried out pursuant to subsection (e)(1), including a
3 discussion of any interim recommendations legisla-
4 tive or administrative action the Commission may
5 have.

6 (3) FORM.—Each report submitted to Congress
7 under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassi-
8 fied form, but may include a classified annex.

9 (g) GOVERNMENT COOPERATION.—

10 (1) COOPERATION.—In carrying out its duties,
11 the Commission shall receive the full and timely co-
12 operation of the Secretary of Commerce and the
13 heads of other Federal departments and agencies in
14 providing the Commission with analysis, briefings,
15 and other information necessary for the fulfillment
16 of its responsibilities.

17 (2) LIAISON.—The Secretary of Commerce
18 shall designate at least 1 officer or employee of the
19 Department of Commerce to serve as a liaison offi-
20 cer between the Department and the Commission.

21 (3) DETAILEES AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary
22 of Commerce and the heads of other departments
23 and agencies of the Federal Government may pro-
24 vide, and the Commission may accept and employ,
25 personnel detailed from the Department of Com-

1 merce and such other departments and agencies,
2 without reimbursement.

3 (4) FACILITATION.—

4 (A) INDEPENDENT, NONGOVERNMENT IN-
5 STITUTE.—Not later than the date that is 45
6 days after the Commission establishment date
7 specified in subsection (a)(2), the Secretary of
8 Commerce may make available to the Commis-
9 sion the services of an independent, nongovern-
10 mental institute described in section 501(c)(3)
11 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and ex-
12 empt from tax under section 501(a) of such
13 Code, that has recognized credentials and ex-
14 pertise in quantum information science and as-
15 sociated technologies in order to facilitate the
16 Commission's discharge of its duties under this
17 section.

18 (B) FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH AND
19 DEVELOPMENT CENTER.—On request of the
20 Commission, the Secretary of Commerce shall
21 make available the services of a federally fund-
22 ed research and development center that is cov-
23 ered by a sponsoring agreement of the Depart-
24 ment of Commerce in order to enhance the

1 Commission's efforts to discharge its duties
2 under this section.

3 (5) EXPEDITION OF SECURITY CLEARANCES.—

4 The Office of Senate Security and the Office of
5 House Security shall ensure the expedited processing
6 of appropriate security clearances under processes
7 developed for the clearance of legislative branch em-
8 ployees for any personnel appointed to the Commis-
9 sion by their respective offices of the Senate and
10 House of Representatives and any personnel ap-
11 pointed by the Executive Director appointed under
12 subsection (h).

13 (6) SERVICES.—

14 (A) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SERV-
15 ICES.—The Secretary of Commerce may provide
16 to the Commission, on a nonreimbursable basis,
17 such administrative services, funds, staff, facili-
18 ties, and other support services as are necessary
19 for the performance of the Commission's duties
20 under this section.

21 (B) OTHER AGENCIES.—In addition to any
22 support provided under paragraph (1), the
23 heads of other Federal departments and agen-
24 cies may provide to the Commission such serv-
25 ices, funds, facilities, staff, and other support

1 as the heads of such departments and agencies
2 determine advisable and as may be authorized
3 by law.

4 (h) STAFF.—

5 (1) STATUS AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Not-
6 withstanding the requirements of section 2105 of
7 title 5, United States Code, including the required
8 supervision under subsection (a)(3) of such section,
9 any member of the Commission who is not a Mem-
10 ber of Congress shall be considered to be a Federal
11 employee.

12 (2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Commission
13 shall appoint and fix the rate of basic pay for an Ex-
14 ecutive Director in accordance with section 3161(d)
15 of title 5, United States Code.

16 (3) PAY.—The Executive Director, with the ap-
17 proval of the Commission, may appoint and fix the
18 rate of basic pay for additional personnel as staff of
19 the Commission in accordance with section 3161(d)
20 of title 5, United States Code.

21 (i) PERSONAL SERVICES.—

22 (1) AUTHORITY TO PROCURE.—The Commis-
23 sion may—

24 (A) procure the services of experts or con-
25 sultants (or of organizations of experts or con-

1 sultants) in accordance with the provisions of
2 section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; and

3 (B) pay in connection with such services
4 travel expenses of individuals, including trans-
5 portation and per diem in lieu of subsistence,
6 while such individuals are traveling from their
7 homes or places of business to duty stations.

8 (2) MAXIMUM DAILY PAY RATES.—The daily
9 rate paid an expert or consultant procured pursuant
10 to paragraph (1) may not exceed the daily rate paid
11 a person occupying a position at level IV of the Ex-
12 ecutive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5,
13 United States Code.

14 (j) AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GIFTS.—The Commission
15 may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of serv-
16 ices, goods, and property from non-Federal entities for the
17 purposes of aiding and facilitating the work of the Com-
18 mission. The authority in this subsection does not extend
19 to gifts of money. Gifts accepted under this authority shall
20 be documented, and conflicts of interest or the appearance
21 of conflicts of interest shall be avoided. Subject to the au-
22 thority in this section, members of the Commission shall
23 otherwise comply with rules set forth by the Select Com-
24 mittee on Ethics of the Senate and the Committee on Eth-

1 ics of the House of Representatives governing employees
2 of the Senate and House of Representatives.

3 (k) LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The
4 Commission shall operate as a legislative advisory com-
5 mittee.

6 (l) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—The Commission
7 may acquire administrative supplies and equipment for
8 Commission use to the extent funds are available.

9 (m) USE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION.—The
10 Commission may secure directly from any department or
11 agency of the Federal Government such information as the
12 Commission considers necessary to carry out its duties.
13 Upon such request of the chair of the Commission, the
14 head of such department or agency shall furnish such in-
15 formation to the Commission.

16 (n) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use
17 the United States mail in the same manner and under the
18 same conditions as Federal departments and agencies.

19 (o) SPACE FOR USE OF COMMISSION.—Not later
20 than 30 days after the establishment date of the Commis-
21 sion, the Administrator of General Services, in consulta-
22 tion with the Commission, shall identify and make avail-
23 able suitable excess space within the Federal space inven-
24 tory to house the operations of the Commission. If the Ad-
25 ministrator is not able to make such suitable excess space

1 available within such 30-day period, the Commission may
2 lease space to the extent the funds are available.

3 (p) REMOVAL OF MEMBERS.—A member may be re-
4 moved from the Commission for cause by the individual
5 serving in the position responsible for the original appoint-
6 ment of such member under subsection (b)(1), provided
7 that notice has first been provided to such member of the
8 cause for removal and voted and agreed upon by $\frac{3}{4}$ of
9 the members serving. A vacancy created by the removal
10 of a member under this subsection shall not affect the
11 powers of the Commission, and shall be filled in the same
12 manner as the original appointment was made.

13 (q) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate
14 on the date that is 540 days after the date on which it
15 submits the final report required by subsection (f).