

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 8969

To realign the nuclear forensics and attribution activities of the Federal Government from the Department of Homeland Security to the National Nuclear Security Administration.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2026

Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. MORELLE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To realign the nuclear forensics and attribution activities of the Federal Government from the Department of Homeland Security to the National Nuclear Security Administration.

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 Forensics Au-  
5 thority Realignment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL NUCLEAR**  
2 **FORENSICS CENTER.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The National Nuclear Secu-  
5 rity Administration Act (50 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.) is  
6 amended by inserting after section 3221 the fol-  
7 lowing new section:

8 **“SEC. 3222. NATIONAL NUCLEAR FORENSICS CENTER.**

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is within the Admin-  
10 istration a National Nuclear Forensics Center (in this sec-  
11 tion referred to as the ‘Center’).

12 “(b) MISSION.—The mission of the Center shall be  
13 to coordinate stewardship, planning, assessment, gap anal-  
14 ysis, exercises, improvement, including operational im-  
15 provements and research, development, testing, and eval-  
16 uation, and integration for all Federal nuclear forensics  
17 and attribution activities to ensure an enduring national  
18 technical nuclear forensics capability to strengthen the col-  
19 lective response of the United States to nuclear terrorism  
20 or other nuclear attacks.”.

21 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
22 tents at the beginning of such Act is amended by in-  
23 serting after the item relating to section 3221 the  
24 following new item:

“Sec. 3222. National Nuclear Forensics Center.”.

1           (3) NUCLEAR FORENSICS EXPERTISE.—Not  
2 later than one year after the date of the enactment  
3 of this Act, the Administrator for Nuclear Security  
4 shall develop and implement a plan to modify the  
5 university program of the National Nuclear Security  
6 Administration established under section 6338 of  
7 title 10, United States Code, to include the develop-  
8 ment of expertise in nuclear forensics in supporting  
9 scientific and engineering advancement in key De-  
10 partment of Energy defense and national security  
11 program areas.

12           (b) CONFORMING REPEALS.—

13           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Nuclear Forensics and  
14 Attribution Act (Public Law 111–140) is hereby re-  
15 pealed.

16           (2) HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—Title  
17 XIX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6  
18 U.S.C. 590 et seq.) is amended as follows:

19           (A) In section 1923—

20           (i) in subsection (a)—

21           (I) by striking “(a) MISSION.—”;

22           (II) in paragraph (9), by striking  
23 the semicolon and inserting “; and”;

24           (III) by striking paragraphs (10),

25           (11), (12), and (13); and

1 (IV) by redesignating paragraph  
2 (14) as paragraph (10); and  
3 (ii) by striking subsection (b).

4 (B) In section 1927(a)(1) (6 U.S.C.  
5 596a(a)(1))—

6 (i) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by strik-  
7 ing the semicolon and inserting “; and”;

8 (ii) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by strik-  
9 ing “; and” and inserting a period; and

10 (iii) by striking subparagraph (C).

11 (c) REFERENCES AND CONSTRUCTION.—Any ref-  
12 erence in any law, regulation, document, paper, or other  
13 record of the United States to the National Technical Nu-  
14 clear Forensics Center established within the Countering  
15 Weapons of Mass Destruction Office of the Department  
16 of Homeland Security, formerly the Domestic Nuclear De-  
17 tecton Office, shall be deemed to be a reference to the  
18 National Nuclear Forensics Center established by section  
19 3222 of the National Nuclear Security Administration  
20 Act, as added by subsection (a).

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