



House GOP Moving Quickly To Pass Advanced Nuclear Bills

WASHINGTON, January 23, 2017 -- ClearPath Action applauds quick action this new Congress by the House of Representatives to approve bipartisan efforts to bolster research and development of U.S. advanced nuclear reactors.

House lawmakers Monday approved the [Advanced Nuclear Technology Development Act](#) led by Reps. Bob Latta (R-Ohio) and Jerry McNerney (D-Calif.) which would require the Department of Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission to consider new frameworks for licensing advanced nuclear reactors.

“This is a great start to the new Congress,” ClearPath Action Founder and CEO Jay Faison said. “This legislation shows how Republicans can lead a conservative clean energy agenda, including securing the future of one of the more important energy resources of the United States.”

House Science and Technology Chairman Lamar Smith (R-Texas) and other senior members of the panel from both parties last Friday also introduced the [Department of Energy Research and Innovation Act](#). The bill, which the full House is expected to take up Tuesday, would incorporate several previous bills strengthening DOE’s research programs and private sector technology transfer, as well as last year’s Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act. That includes directing DOE to begin planning for a fast neutron source – a crucial resource the private sector will be unable to provide on its own. It also provides for computational modeling support necessary for advanced nuclear engineering and ensures that the private sector will have access to existing national labs’ resources.

The new bill also includes important reforms allowing the national labs to work more closely with private industry, and establishes new research programs around solar fuels, exascale computing and electricity storage. Altogether, this bill establishes research programs focused on several key areas of clean energy development, while giving the national labs greater flexibility.

ClearPath Action is a 501(c)(4) working to create and influence conservative clean energy solutions. Find out more at clearpath.org and clearpathaction.org. Also follow us on Twitter: @JayFaison1 and @ClearPathAction.