II

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3558

To prohibit contracting with certain biotechnology providers, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 20, 2023

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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A BILL

To prohibit contracting with certain biotechnology providers, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTING WITH CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of an executive agency may not—

(1) procure or obtain any biotechnology equipment or service produced or provided by a biotechnology company of concern; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with any entity that—

(A) uses biotechnology equipment or services produced or provided by a biotechnology company of concern and acquired after the applicable effective date in subsection (c) in performance of the contract; or

(B) enters into any contract the performance of which will require the direct use of biotechnology equipment or services produced or provided by a biotechnology company of concern and acquired after the applicable effective date in subsection (c).

(b) PROHIBITION ON LOAN AND GRANT FUNDS.—The head of an executive agency may not obligate or expend loan or grant funds to—

(1) procure or obtain any biotechnology equipment or services produced or provided by a biotechnology company of concern; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with an entity described in subsection (a)(2).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) CERTAIN ENTITIES.—With respect to the biotechnology companies of concern covered by sub-

section (f)(2)(A), the prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect 60 days after the issuance of the implementing guidance in subsection (f)(3) or the expiration of the deadline set forth in subsection (f)(3), whichever occurs first.

(2) OTHER ENTITIES.—With respect to the biotechnology companies of concern covered by subsection (f)(2)(B), the prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect 180 days after the issuance of the implementing guidance in subsection (f)(3).

(d) WAIVER AUTHORITIES.—

(1) SPECIFIC BIOTECHNOLOGY EXCEPTION.—

(A) WAIVER.—The head of an executive agency may waive the prohibition under subsection (a) and (b) on a case-by-case basis—

(i) with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Acquisition Security Council and the Secretary of Defense; and

(ii) if such head submits a notification and justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after granting such waiver.

(B) DURATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), a waiver granted under subparagraph (A) shall last for a period of not more than 365 days.

(ii) EXTENSION.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Acquisition Security Council and the Secretary of Defense, may extend a waiver granted under subparagraph (A) one time, for a period up to 180 days after the date on which the waiver would otherwise expire, if such an extension is in the national security interests of the United States and the Director submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notification of such waiver.

(2) OVERSEAS HEALTH CARE SERVICES.—The head of an executive agency may waive the prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) with respect to a contract, subcontract, or transaction for the acquisition or provision of health care services overseas on a case-by-case basis—

(A) if the head of such executive agency determines that the waiver is—

(i) necessary to support the mission or activities of the employees of such executive agency described in subsection (e)(2)(A); and

(ii) in the interest of the United States;

(B) with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Acquisition Security Council and the Secretary of Defense; and

(C) if such head submits a notification and justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after granting such waiver.

(e) EXCEPTIONS.—The prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to—

(1) any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intelligence activities of the United States;

(2) the acquisition or provision of health care services overseas for—

(A) employees of the United States, including members of the uniformed services (as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United

States Code), whose official duty stations are located overseas or are on permissive temporary duty travel overseas; or

(B) employees of contractors or subcontractors of the United States—

(i) who are performing under a contract that directly supports the missions or activities of individuals described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) whose primary duty stations are located overseas or are on permissive temporary duty travel overseas; or

(3) the acquisition, use, or distribution of human multiomic data, however compiled, that is commercially or publicly available.

(f) EVALUATION OF CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY ENTITIES.—

(1) ENTITY CONSIDERATION.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State, shall

develop a list of the entities that constitute biotechnology companies of concern.

(2) BIOTECHNOLOGY COMPANIES OF CONCERN DEFINED.—The term ''biotechnology company of concern'' means—

(A) BGI, MGI, Complete Genomics, Wuxi Apptec, and any subsidiary, parent affiliate, or successor of such entities; and

(B) any entity that—

(i) is subject to the jurisdiction, direction, control, or operates on behalf of the government of a foreign adversary;

(ii) is to any extent involved in the manufacturing, distribution, provision, or procurement of a biotechnology equipment or service; and

(iii) poses a risk to the national security of the United States based on—

(I) engaging in joint research with, being supported by, or being affiliated with a foreign adversary's military, internal security forces, or intelligence agencies;

(II) providing multiomic data obtained via biotechnology equipment or

services to the government of a foreign adversary; or

(III) obtaining human multiomic data via the biotechnology equipment or services without express and informed consent.

(3) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State, shall establish guidance necessary to implement the requirements of this section.

(4) UPDATES.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of State, shall periodically, though not less than annually, review and, as appropriate, make a

determination to modify the list of biotechnology companies of concern.

(g) REGULATIONS.—Not later than one year after the date of establishment of guidance required under subsection (f)(3), the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council shall revise the Federal Acquisition Regulation as necessary to implement the requirements of this section.

(h) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this section.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party of the House of Representatives.

(2) BIOTECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term ''biotechnology equipment or service'' means—

(A) equipment, including genetic sequencers, mass spectrometers, polymerase chain reaction machines, or any other instrument, apparatus, machine, or device, including components and accessories thereof, that is designed for use in the research, development, production, or analysis of biological materials as well as any software, firmware, or other digital components that are specifically designed for use in, and necessary for the operation of, such equipment;

(B) any service for the research, development, production, analysis, detection, or provision of information, including data storage and transmission related to biological materials, including—

(i) advising, consulting, or support services with respect to the use or implementation of a instrument, apparatus, machine, or device described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) disease detection, genealogical information, and related services; and

(C) any other service, instrument, apparatus, machine, component, accessory, device, software, or firmware that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the heads of Executive agencies, as determined appropriate by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, determines appropriate.

(3) CONTROL.—The term ''control'' has the meaning given to that term in section 800.208 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulations.

(4) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term ''executive agency'' has the meaning given the term ''Executive agency'' in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(5) FOREIGN ADVERSARY.—The term ''foreign adversary'' has the meaning given the term ''covered nation'' in section 4872(d) of title 10, United States Code.

(6) MULTIOMIC.—The term ''multiomic'' means data types that include genomics, epigenomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics.

(7) OVERSEAS.—The term ''overseas'' means any area outside of the United States, the Common-

wealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory or possession of the United States.

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