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(Original Signature of Member)

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 17, United States Code, with respect to works connected
to certain funding agreements.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CONYERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 17, United States Code, with respect to
works connected to certain funding agreements.

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 “Fair Copyright in Re-
5 search Works Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REGARD-**
2 **ING EXTRINSIC WORKS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201 of title 17, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing new subsection:

6 “(f) LIMITATIONS ON THE FEDERAL GOVERN-
7 MENT.—

8 “(1) LIMITATIONS REGARDING FUNDING
9 AGREEMENTS.—No Federal agency may, in connec-
10 tion with a funding agreement—

11 “(A) impose or cause the imposition of any
12 term or condition that—

13 “(i) requires the transfer or license to
14 or for a Federal agency of—

15 “(I) any right provided under
16 paragraph (3), (4) or (5) of section
17 106 in an extrinsic work; or

18 “(II) any right provided under
19 paragraph (1) or (2) of section 106 in
20 an extrinsic work, to the extent that,
21 solely for purposes of this subsection,
22 such right involves the availability to
23 the public of that work; or

24 “(ii) requires the absence or abandon-
25 ment of any right described in subclause

1 (I) or (II) of clause (i) in an extrinsic
2 work;

3 “(B) impose as a condition of a funding
4 agreement the waiver of, or assent to, any pro-
5 hibition under subparagraph (A); or

6 “(C) assert any rights under this title in
7 material developed under any funding agree-
8 ment that restrain or limit the acquisition or
9 exercise of rights under this title in an extrinsic
10 work.

11 Any term, condition, or assertion prohibited under
12 subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) shall be given no ef-
13 fect under this title or otherwise.

14 “(2) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph
15 (1)(A)(i)(II) shall be construed to limit the rights
16 provided to the copyright owner under paragraphs
17 (1) and (2) of section 106.

18 “(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

19 “(A) EXTRINSIC WORK.—The term ‘extrin-
20 sic work’ means any work, other than a work
21 of the United States Government, that is based
22 upon, derived from, or related to, a funding
23 agreement and—

24 “(i) is also funded in substantial part
25 by one or more other entities, other than

1 a Federal agency, that are not a party to
2 the funding agreement or acting on behalf
3 of such a party; or

4 “(ii) represents, reflects, or results
5 from a meaningful added value or process
6 contributed by one or more other entities,
7 other than a Federal agency, that are not
8 a party to the funding agreement or acting
9 on behalf of such a party.

10 “(B) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term ‘Fed-
11 eral agency’ means any department, agency, or
12 instrumentality of the United States Govern-
13 ment.

14 “(C) FUNDING AGREEMENT.—The term
15 ‘funding agreement’ means any contract, grant,
16 or other agreement entered into between a Fed-
17 eral agency and any person under which funds
18 are provided by a Federal agency, in whole or
19 in part, for the performance of experimental,
20 developmental, or research activities.”

21 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by sub-
22 section (a) applies to any funding agreement that is en-
23 tered into on or after the date of the enactment of this
24 Act.

1 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Not
2 later than the date that is 5 years after the date of the
3 enactment of this Act, the Register of Copyrights shall,
4 after consulting with the Comptroller General and with
5 Federal agencies that provide funding under funding
6 agreements and with publishers in the private sector, re-
7 view and submit to the appropriate congressional commit-
8 tees a report on the Register’s views on section 201(f) of
9 title 17, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)
10 of this section, taking into account the development of and
11 access to extrinsic works and materials developed under
12 funding agreements, including the role played by pub-
13 lishers in the private sector and others.

14 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) EXTRINSIC WORK; FEDERAL AGENCY;
16 FUNDING AGREEMENT.—The terms “extrinsic
17 work”, “Federal agency”, and “funding agreement”
18 have the meanings given those terms in section
19 201(f)(3) of title 17, United States Code, as added
20 by subsection (a) of this section.

21 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
22 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
23 mittees” means the Committee on the Judiciary and
24 the Committee on Appropriations of the House of

- 1 Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary
- 2 and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.