

Statutory Language:

SEC. 1108. REVIEW OF COSTS AND BENEFITS OF ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, AND SAFETY STANDARDS.

(a) Review of Standards- The Secretary of Education shall enter into an agreement with the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a national study that--

(1) reviews, analyzes, and compares existing standards in environmental, health, and safety areas, for the regulation of--

(A) industrial research and development facilities; and

(B) research and teaching laboratories and facilities at institutions of higher education;

and

(2) based upon the review in paragraph (1), develops recommended frameworks for alternative regulatory standards, if any, for research and teaching laboratories and facilities at institutions of higher education that--

(A) maintain the overall level of protection of the environment, and of the health and safety of those using such laboratories and facilities;

(B) reflect the need to ensure consistent application of Federal laws; and

(C) take into account the educational and research activities of institutions of higher education.

(b) Report- The National Research Council shall report to Congress regarding the recommended frameworks for alternative regulatory standards developed under subsection (a). Such report shall contain recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes needed to implement the different standards described in subsection (a), and the projected costs and benefits resulting from the adoption of such standards.