To require the National Institute of Standards and Technology to establish a premise plumbing research laboratory, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTWRIGHT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________________

A BILL

To require the National Institute of Standards and Technology to establish a premise plumbing research laboratory, 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. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “NIST Plumbing Research Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. PREMISE PLUMBING RESEARCH.

(a) PREMISE PLUMBING DEFINED.—In this Act, the term “premise plumbing” means the water distribution
system located within the property lines of a property, in-
cluding all buildings and permanent structures on such
property. Such term includes building supply and distribu-
tion pipes, fixtures, fittings, water heaters, water-treating
and water-using equipment, and all respective joints, con-
nections, devices, and appurtenances.

(b) Research.—Not later than 1 year after the date
of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the National
Institute of Standards and Technology, in collaboration
with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection
Agency and the Secretary of Energy, shall—

(1) establish or designate a laboratory to con-
duct research on premise plumbing in relation to
water safety, security, efficiency, sustainability, and
resilience;

(2) conduct an organizational review of all re-
search and other activities related to premise plum-
ing conducted by Federal entities; and

(3) appoint one or more officers or employees of
the Institute to liaise with non-Federal entities con-
ducting research or other activities related to
premise plumbing.

(c) Quadrennial Reports.—Not later than 4 years
after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less
frequently than once every 4 years thereafter, the Director
shall submit to Congress a report on the progress made by the Institute regarding—

(1) the status of the laboratory described in subsection (b)(1), including any staff designated to work in such laboratory;

(2) all projects of the Institute related to premise plumbing, including completed projects, projects in progress, and projects planned for the future;

(3) updates to data relevant to premise plumbing system structure, design, and construction; and

(4) any progress of private organizations in updating premise plumbing standards.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the National Institute of Standards and Technology such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.