

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1492

To establish a pilot program to provide assistance for partnerships supporting applied sciences in renewable energy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. WELCH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish a pilot program to provide assistance for partnerships supporting applied sciences in renewable energy.

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. APPLIED SCIENCES IN RENEWABLE ENERGY**

4 **PILOT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy
6 shall establish a research pilot program for award grants
7 to partnerships to improve education and training in sup-
8 port of applied sciences in the field of renewable energy
9 as part of a comprehensive program to enhance the quality
10 of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in-

1 instruction at the secondary school and undergraduate lev-
2 els. Grants under this section may be used for—

3 (1) professional development and training for
4 teachers;

5 (2) purchase, rental, or leasing of equipment,
6 instrumentation, and other educational and training
7 materials;

8 (3) improvement of facilities for providing edu-
9 cation and training experiences in applied sciences in
10 the field of renewable energy;

11 (4) development of instructional programs de-
12 signed to integrate education and training in applied
13 sciences in renewable energy with the practical appli-
14 cation of that education and training;

15 (5) recruitment and retention of new faculty;

16 (6) encouraging collaboration between faculty
17 and industry partners;

18 (7) supporting outreach efforts to recruit stu-
19 dents; and

20 (8) assessment of the activities funded under
21 this Act.

22 (b) PARTNERSHIPS.—Grants awarded under sub-
23 section (a) shall be to the institution described in para-
24 graph (1), as part of a partnership that—

1 (1) includes a 2-year degree granting institution
2 of higher education offering an associates degree in
3 applied science in a renewable energy field;

4 (2) includes a 4-year degree granting institution
5 of higher education;

6 (3) includes a business or eligible nonprofit or-
7 ganization and labor organization; and

8 (4) may include a State educational agency,
9 other public agency, National Laboratory, or com-
10 munity-based organization.

11 (c) PREFERENCE.—The Secretary of Energy shall
12 give preference to awarding grants under this section for
13 partnerships—

14 (1) whose proposal incorporates a technical
15 preparation program described in section 203(c) of
16 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
17 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2373(c)); or

18 (2) who can demonstrate the likely long-term
19 stability of the program without continued Federal
20 funding.

21 (d) DIVERSITY OF SUBJECT MATTER.—The Sec-
22 retary of Energy shall ensure that, to the extent possible,
23 grants are provided under this Act for partnerships rep-
24 resenting a wide diversity of renewable energy fields.

1 (e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
2 of activities carried out using amounts from a grant under
3 subsection (a) shall not exceed 40 percent.

4 (f) LIMITATION.—No single grant under subsection
5 (a) may be made in an amount greater than \$1,000,000
6 per year.

7 (g) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The Secretary of En-
8 ergy shall make publicly available all curricula, planning
9 documents, and other materials related to a project sup-
10 ported by a grant made under this Act.

11 (h) PROJECT REPORTS.—The Secretary of Energy
12 shall require grant recipients under subsection (a) to sub-
13 mit a report to the Secretary, not later than 3 years after
14 receiving the grant, on the results of the project supported
15 by the grant. Each such report shall include an assessment
16 of which elements of the project supported with the grant
17 were successful and which were not, along with an identi-
18 fication and analysis of improvements that could have
19 made the project more successful. The Secretary shall
20 make all reports submitted under this subsection available
21 to the public.

22 (i) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
23 term “renewable energy” has the meaning given that term
24 in section 609(a) (3) and (4) of the Public Utility Regu-
25 latory Policies Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 918c(a) (3) and (4)).

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT.**

2 The Secretary of Energy shall evaluate the effective-
3 ness of activities carried out under this Act. A report docu-
4 menting the results of that evaluation shall be submitted
5 to the Committee on Science and Technology of the House
6 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
7 Science, and Transportation and the Committee on
8 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate not
9 later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.
10 The report shall identify best practices and materials de-
11 veloped and demonstrated by partnerships awarded a
12 grant.

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
15 this Act—

16 (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

17 (2) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

18 (3) such sums as may be necessary for each of
19 fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

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