

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 2086

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## AN ACT

To address current emergency shortages of propane and other home heating fuels and to provide greater flexibility and information for Governors to address such emergencies in the future.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Reliable Home Heating  
3 Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO EXTEND EMERGENCY DECLARA-**  
5 **TIONS FOR PURPOSES OF TEMPORARILY EX-**  
6 **EMPTING MOTOR CARRIERS PROVIDING**  
7 **EMERGENCY RELIEF FROM CERTAIN SAFETY**  
8 **REGULATIONS.**

9 (a) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this Act, the term “residen-  
10 tial heating fuel” includes—

- 11 (1) heating oil;  
12 (2) natural gas; and  
13 (3) propane.

14 (b) **AUTHORIZATION.**—If the Governor of a State de-  
15 clares a state of emergency caused by a shortage of resi-  
16 dential heating fuel and, at the conclusion of the initial  
17 30-day emergency period (or a second 30-day emergency  
18 period authorized under this subsection), the Governor de-  
19 termines that the emergency shortage has not ended, any  
20 extension of such state of emergency by the Governor, up  
21 to 2 additional 30-day periods, shall be recognized by the  
22 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration as a period  
23 during which parts 390 through 399 of chapter III of title  
24 49, Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply to any  
25 motor carrier or driver operating a commercial motor vehi-

1 cle to provide residential heating fuel in the geographic  
2 area so designated as under a state of emergency.

3 (c) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Transportation  
4 shall amend section 390.23(a)(1)(ii) of title 49, Code of  
5 Federal Regulations, to conform to the provision set forth  
6 in subsection (b).

7 (d) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section  
8 may be construed to modify the authority granted to the  
9 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s Field Ad-  
10 ministrator under section 390.23(a) of title 49, Code of  
11 Federal Regulations, to offer temporary exemptions from  
12 parts 390 through 399 of such title.

13 **SEC. 3. ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION NOTIFI-**  
14 **CATION REQUIREMENT.**

15 The Administrator of the Energy Information Ad-  
16 ministration, using data compiled from the Administra-  
17 tion’s Weekly Petroleum Status Reports, shall notify the  
18 Governor of each State in a Petroleum Administration for  
19 Defense District if the inventory of residential heating fuel  
20 within such district has been below the most recent 5-year  
21 average for more than 3 consecutive weeks.

22 **SEC. 4. REVIEW.**

23 Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment  
24 of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall conduct  
25 a study of, and transmit to the Committee on Commerce,

1 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-  
2 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House  
3 of Representatives, a report on the impacts of safety from  
4 the extensions issued by Governors according to this Act.  
5 In conducting the study, the Secretary shall review, at a  
6 minimum—

7           (1) the safety implications of extending exemp-  
8           tions; and

9           (2) a review of the exemption process to ensure  
10          clarity and efficiency during emergencies.

Passed the Senate May 21, 2014.

Attest:

*Secretary.*



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