

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 922

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to make available for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program a specified percentage of the money received by the United States from onshore Federal oil and gas development.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2001

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to make available for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program a specified percentage of the money received by the United States from onshore Federal oil and gas development.

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 “Low-Income Energy
5 Assistance Reinvestment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) high energy costs are causing hardship for
2 families;

3 (2) restructured energy markets have increased
4 the need for a higher and more consistent level of
5 funding for low-income energy assistance programs;

6 (3) senior citizens, low-income individuals, and
7 individuals living on fixed incomes have been espe-
8 cially hurt by higher energy costs;

9 (4) high natural gas prices and unprecedented
10 demand for electricity are likely to keep electricity
11 rates high across the United States;

12 (5) summer cooling requirements will only exac-
13 erbate the problem of continued high electricity
14 rates;

15 (6) the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
16 Program established under the Low-Income Home
17 Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 8621 et
18 seq.), assists consumers in managing increased costs
19 and ensures that key investments are made in
20 weatherization; and

21 (7) royalty revenues from oil produced from
22 Federal land should be used to help those suffering
23 from the high costs of restructured energy markets.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide
2 additional assistance for home energy needs to individuals
3 who are most affected by high energy prices.

4 **SEC. 3. AVAILABILITY OF ONSHORE FEDERAL OIL AND GAS**
5 **REVENUES FOR LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY**
6 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

7 Section 35(a) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
8 191(a)) is amended in the first sentence—

9 (1) by striking “paid into the Treasury of the
10 United States;” and inserting “deposited in the
11 Treasury of the United States, of which 5 percent
12 shall be available to the Secretary of Health and
13 Human Services for use in carrying out the Low-In-
14 come Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (42
15 U.S.C. 8621 et seq.);”; and

16 (2) by striking “per centum” each place it ap-
17 pears and inserting “percent”.

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