

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1388

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Energy, to conduct a study on the public health and environmental impacts of the production, transportation, storage, and use of petroleum coke, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 30, 2013

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. BROWN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Energy, to conduct a study on the public health and environmental impacts of the production, transportation, storage, and use of petroleum coke, and for other purposes.

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 “Petroleum Coke Trans-
5 parency and Public Health Study Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) In the past several years, United States
4 crude oil refineries have grown their coking capacity
5 to accommodate the conversion of heavy crude oils
6 into refined petroleum products.

7 (2) As coking capacity has grown, the domestic
8 production of petroleum coke is expected to grow,
9 leading to increases in the storage, transportation,
10 and use of the material.

11 (3) In Detroit, piles of petroleum coke have
12 been stored in the open air on the banks of the De-
13 troit River.

14 (4) State regulators, communities, and industry
15 stakeholders would benefit from a complete under-
16 standing of petroleum coke and the potential impact
17 on public health and the environment related to the
18 production, transportation, storage, and use of pe-
19 troleum coke.

20 **SEC. 3. STUDY OF PETROLEUM COKE PUBLIC HEALTH AND**
21 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
23 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
24 Human Services, in consultation with the Administrator
25 of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary
26 of Energy, shall transmit to Congress the results of a

1 study concerning petroleum coke that shall include the fol-
2 lowing:

3 (1) An analysis of the public health and envi-
4 ronmental impacts of the production, transportation,
5 storage, and use of petroleum coke.

6 (2) An assessment of potential approaches and
7 best practices for storing, transporting, and man-
8 aging petroleum coke.

9 (3) A quantitative analysis of current and pro-
10 jected domestic petroleum coke production and utili-
11 zation locations.

12 (b) BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE.—The study under
13 subsection (a) shall be carried out using the best available
14 science with the solicitation of readily available informa-
15 tion from appropriate State agencies, nonprofit entities,
16 academic entities, and industry.

17 **SEC. 4. CONSOLIDATION OF PETROLEUM COKE RESEARCH.**

18 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
19 of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
20 shall compile and publish on a publicly available website
21 the results of the study conducted under section 3.

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