S. 1491

To amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve United States-Israel energy cooperation, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve United States-Israel energy cooperation, 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. UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENERGY COOPERATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 917(a) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “renewable” and inserting “covered”;
(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “possible many” and inserting “possible—

“(A) many”; 

(B) by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end; and 

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) significant contributions to the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency through the established programs of the United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation;”;

(3) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking “renewable” and inserting “covered”; and 

(B) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(4) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by striking “renewable” and inserting “covered”; and 

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and 

(5) by adding at the end the following:
“(8) United States-Israel energy cooperation, and the development of natural resources by Israel, are strategic interests of the United States;

“(9) Israel is a strategic partner of the United States in water technology;

“(10) the United States can play a role in assisting Israel with regional safety and security issues;

“(11) the National Science Foundation of the United States should collaborate with the Israel Science Foundation;

“(12) the United States and Israel should strive to develop more robust academic cooperation in energy innovation technology and engineering, water science, technology transfer, and analysis of geopolitical implications of new natural resource development and associated areas;

“(13) the United States supports the goals of the Alternative Fuels Administration of Israel;

“(14) the United States strongly urges open dialogue and continued mechanisms for regular engagement and encourages further cooperation between applicable departments, agencies, ministries, institutions of higher education, and the private sec-
tor of the United States and Israel on energy secu-
y issues, including—

“(A) identifying policy priorities associated

with the development of natural resources of

Israel;

“(B) discussing best practices to secure
cyber energy infrastructure;

“(C) best practice sharing;

“(D) leveraging natural gas to positively

impact regional stability;

“(E) improving energy efficiency and the

overall performance of water technologies

through research and development in water de-
salination, wastewater treatment and reclama-
tion, and other water treatment refiners;

“(F) technical and environmental manage-

ment of deep-water exploration and production;

“(G) coastal protection and restoration;

“(H) academic outreach and engagement;

“(I) private sector and business develop-

ment engagement;

“(J) regulatory consultations;

“(K) leveraging alternative transportation

fuels and technologies; and
“(L) any other areas determined appropriate by United States and Israel; and
“(15) the United States acknowledges the achievements and importance of the Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD) and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) and supports continued multiyear funding to ensure the continuity of the programs of the Foundations.”.

(b) TYPES OF ENERGY.—Section 917(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337(b)(2)) is amended—
(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;
(2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and
(3) by adding at the end the following:
“(H) natural gas energy, including natural gas projects conducted by or in conjunction with the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation;
“(I) improvement of energy efficiency and the overall performance of water technologies through research and development in water de-
salination, wastewater treatment and reclamation, and other water treatment refiners; and “(J) conventional and unconventional oil and gas technologies.”.

(c) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—Section 917(b)(3) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337(b)(3)) is amended by striking “energy efficiency or renewable” and inserting “covered”.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—Section 917 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d);

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (e); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, subject to appropriations, enter into cooperative agreements supporting and enhancing dialogue and planning involving international partnerships between the Department, including National Laboratories of the Department, and the Government of Israel and its ministries, offices, and institutions.
“(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary may not pay more than 50 percent of Federal share of the costs described in paragraph (1).

“(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary may submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an annual report that describes—

“(A) actions taken to carry out this subsection; and

“(B) any projects under this subsection for which the Secretary requests funding.

“(d) UNITED STATES-ISRAEL CENTER.—The Secretary may establish a joint United States-Israel Center based in an area of the United States with the experience, knowledge, and expertise in offshore energy development to further dialogue and collaboration to develop more robust academic cooperation in energy innovation technology and engineering, water science, technology transfer, and analysis of geopolitical implications of new natural resource development and associated areas.”.

(e) TERMINATION.—Subsection (e) of section 917 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337) (as redesignated by subsection (d)(2)) is amended by striking “the date that is 7 years after the
1 date of enactment of this Act” and inserting “September 30, 2024”.

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