

Union Calendar No. 377

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7673

[Report No. 118-454]

To prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2024

Mr. OGLES (for himself, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

APRIL 10, 2024

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, 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 “Liberty in Laundry
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PRESCRIBING AND ENFORCING ENERGY CON-**
7 **SERVATION STANDARDS FOR CLOTHES**
8 **WASHERS.**

9 (a) **TECHNOLOGICALLY FEASIBLE AND ECONOMI-**
10 **CALLY JUSTIFIED.**—Notwithstanding subsections (m),
11 (n), and (o) of section 325 of the Energy Policy and Con-
12 servation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295), the Secretary of Energy
13 may not—

14 (1) prescribe a new or an amended energy con-
15 servation standard for a covered product that is a
16 clothes washer under such section unless the Sec-
17 retary of Energy determines that the prescription
18 and imposition of such energy conservation standard
19 is technologically feasible and economically justified;
20 or

21 (2) enforce an energy conservation standard
22 prescribed under such section for a covered product
23 that is a clothes washer if the Secretary of Energy
24 determines that enforcement of or compliance with

1 such energy conservation standard is not techno-
2 logically feasible or economically justified.

3 (b) PROHIBITION ON INCREASED COSTS TO CON-
4 SUMERS.—Notwithstanding subsections (m), (n), and (o)
5 of section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act
6 (42 U.S.C. 6295), the Secretary of Energy may not—

7 (1) prescribe a new or an amended energy con-
8 servation standard for a covered product that is a
9 clothes washer under such section unless the Sec-
10 retary of Energy determines that the prescription
11 and imposition of such energy conservation standard
12 is not likely to result in additional net costs to the
13 consumer, including any increase in net costs associ-
14 ated with the purchase, installation, maintenance,
15 disposal, and replacement of the covered product; or

16 (2) enforce an energy conservation standard
17 prescribed under such section for a covered product
18 that is a clothes washer if the Secretary of Energy
19 determines that enforcement of or compliance with
20 such energy conservation standard is likely to result
21 in additional net costs to the consumer, including
22 any increase in net costs associated with the pur-
23 chase, installation, maintenance, disposal, and re-
24 placement of the covered product.

1 (c) SIGNIFICANT ENERGY SAVINGS REQUIRE-
2 MENT.—Notwithstanding subsections (m), (n), and (o) of
3 section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act
4 (42 U.S.C. 6295), the Secretary of Energy may not—

5 (1) prescribe a new or an amended energy con-
6 servation standard for a covered product that is a
7 clothes washer under such section if the Secretary of
8 Energy determines that the prescription and imposi-
9 tion of such energy conservation standard will not
10 result in significant conservation of energy; or

11 (2) enforce an energy conservation standard
12 prescribed under such section for a covered product
13 that is a clothes washer if the Secretary of Energy
14 determines that enforcement of or compliance with
15 such energy conservation standard will not result in
16 significant conservation of energy.

17 (d) COVERED PRODUCT; ENERGY CONSERVATION
18 STANDARD.—In this section, the terms “covered product”
19 and “energy conservation standard” have the meanings
20 given such terms in section 321 of the Energy Policy and
21 Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291).

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