

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9827

To amend the Clean Air Act to modify the definition of renewable biomass for purposes of the renewable fuel standard, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2026

Mr. BENTZ (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. EZELL, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BERA, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. GUEST, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. LATTI, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. FINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Clean Air Act to modify the definition of renewable biomass for purposes of the renewable fuel standard, 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 “Wildfire Reduction
5 Market Expansion Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF RENEWABLE BIOMASS.**

7 Section 211(o)(1)(I) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.
8 7545(o)(1)(I)) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating each of clauses (i) through
2 (vii) as subclauses (I) through (VII), respectively,
3 and indenting appropriately;

4 (2) in the matter preceding subclause (I) (as so
5 redesignated), by striking “The term” and inserting
6 the following:

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The term”;

8 (3) by striking subclause (II) (as so redesign-
9 ated) and inserting the following:

10 “(II) Materials generated from
11 forest products manufacturing and
12 wood products manufacturing, includ-
13 ing wood residuals, paper residuals,
14 sawdust, wood, wood chips, shavings,
15 bark, sanderdust, and paper recycling
16 residuals (excluding paper in the form
17 and type commonly recycled).”;

18 (4) by striking subclauses (IV) and (V) (as so
19 redesignated) and inserting the following:

20 “(IV) Trees, shrubs, and parts of
21 trees or shrubs, including slash and
22 storm debris, from—

23 “(aa) non-Federal land
24 that—

1 “(AA) is managed
2 under a forest sustainability
3 certification program;

4 “(BB) is classified for
5 State or local property tax
6 purposes as forest land,
7 timberland, or land in cur-
8 rent use for forestry; or

9 “(CC) in accordance
10 with clause (ii), the land-
11 owner certifies to the Ad-
12 ministrator is being man-
13 aged for long-term timber
14 production;

15 “(bb) land within the Na-
16 tional Forest System (as defined
17 in section 11(a) of the Forest
18 and Rangeland Renewable Re-
19 sources Planning Act of 1974
20 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a))) or public
21 lands (as defined in section 103
22 of the Federal Land Policy and
23 Management Act of 1976 (43
24 U.S.C. 1702)), if the Secretary of
25 Agriculture or the Secretary of

1 the Interior, as applicable and in
2 accordance with clause (ii), cer-
3 tifies to the Administrator, di-
4 rectly or through an authorized
5 officer, that the materials are—

6 “(AA) by-products from
7 commercial or noncommer-
8 cial land management activi-
9 ties or material generated
10 from fuel reduction treat-
11 ments, ecological restoration
12 projects, or pre-commercial
13 thinning;

14 “(BB) not reasonably
15 suitable for use as a sawlog,
16 as determined by the Sec-
17 retary of Agriculture or the
18 Secretary of the Interior, as
19 applicable; and

20 “(CC) sourced in a
21 manner consistent with all
22 applicable Federal laws and
23 regulations governing forest
24 management activities and
25 the applicable forest plan or

1 resource management plan;

2 or

3 “(cc) land—

4 “(AA) owned by an In-
5 dian tribe; or

6 “(BB) held in trust by,
7 or subject to a restriction
8 against alienation imposed
9 by, the United States for an
10 Indian tribe or individual In-
11 dian.

12 “(V) Vegetation obtained from—

13 “(aa) within the reasonably
14 established defensible space of a
15 structure or an infrastructure
16 asset, including a residential
17 structure, a commercial building,
18 and a public facility, in accord-
19 ance with applicable local law or,
20 if there is no applicable local law,
21 the most recent publication of the
22 International Wildland-Urban
23 Interface Code of the Inter-
24 national Code Council; or

1 “(bb) wildfire risk reduction
2 activities within the wildland-
3 urban interface (as defined in
4 section 101 of the Healthy For-
5 ests Restoration Act of 2003 (16
6 U.S.C. 6511)).”; and

7 (5) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(ii) CERTIFICATION.—A certification
9 to the Administrator under this subpara-
10 graph may be in the form of a letter given
11 to the person seeking to generate credits
12 under this subsection from—

13 “(I) with respect to the certifi-
14 cation required under clause
15 (i)(IV)(aa)(CC), the non-Federal land-
16 owner; and

17 “(II) with respect to the certifi-
18 cation required under clause
19 (i)(IV)(bb), the local office of the De-
20 partment of Agriculture or the De-
21 partment of the Interior with author-
22 ity over the applicable forest plan or
23 resource management plan.

24 “(iii) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in
25 clause (i)(IV)(bb) requires the applicable

1 forest plan or resource management plan
2 to expressly identify renewable fuel or bio-
3 mass energy as an intended end use of the
4 material, provided that the underlying
5 project, removal, sale, or disposition of the
6 material is otherwise authorized and con-
7 sistent with the applicable forest plan or
8 resource management plan.”.

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