111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 3919

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the designation of Clean Energy Business Zones and for tax incentives for the construction of, and employment at, energy-efficient buildings and clean energy facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 23, 2009

Mr. Maffei (for himself, Mr. McMahon, Mr. Bartlett, and Mr. Thompson of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

- To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the designation of Clean Energy Business Zones and for tax incentives for the construction of, and employment at, energy-efficient buildings and clean energy facilities, 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,

1	SECTION 1	SHORT TITLE	
	SECTION	SHORT TITLE	

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Clean Energy Business
- 3 Zone Act of 2009" and as the "Clean Energy Empower-
- 4 ment Zone Act of 2009".
- 5 SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS ZONES
- 6 AND TAX INCENTIVES WITH RESPECT TO
- 7 SUCH ZONES.
- 8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of the Internal Rev-
- 9 enue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the
- 10 following new subchapter:

11 "Subchapter Z—Clean Energy Business Zones

"PART I. DESIGNATION.

"PART II. TAX BENEFITS.

12 "PART I—DESIGNATION

"Sec. 1400V-1. Designation of Clean Energy Business Zones.

- 13 "SEC. 1400V-1. DESIGNATION OF CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS
- 14 ZONES.
- 15 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may designate 40
- 16 clean energy business zones.
- 17 "(b) Consultation.—In designating such zones, the
- 18 Secretary shall consult with—
- "(1) the Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
- velopment in the case of urban areas, and
- 21 "(2) the Secretary of Agriculture in the case of
- 22 rural areas.

- 1 "(c) Designation Criteria.—In designating such
- 2 zones, the Secretary shall consider the following factors:
- 3 "(1) Whether the area already has a clean en-
- 4 ergy infrastructure or otherwise has a deteriorating
- 5 conventional energy infrastructure.
- 6 "(2) Whether the area is reliant on carbon-in-
- 7 tensive industries and, consequently, job loss is an-
- 8 ticipated due to the transition to a clean energy
- 9 economy.
- "(3) Whether the area is home to business sec-
- tors that could complement new clean energy indus-
- tries.
- "(4) Whether the area has other environmental
- or economic conditions conducive to the establish-
- ment of facilities relating to the manufacture or re-
- search of clean energy or clean energy technologies,
- including the components used in such manufacture
- or research and the production of clean energy.
- 19 "(d) Size.—An area may be designated as a Clean
- 20 Energy Business Zone only if it meets the requirements
- 21 of section 1392(a)(3).
- 22 "(e) Period Designations May Be Made.—A des-
- 23 ignation may be made under subsection (a) only after
- 24 2009 and before 2012.

1	"(f) Period for Which Designation Is in Ef-
2	FECT.—Any designation under this section shall remain
3	in effect during the period beginning on the date of the
4	designation and ending on the close of the 10th calendar
5	year beginning on or after such date of designation.
6	"PART 1—TAX BENEFITS
	"Sec. 1400V-2. Tax benefits for clean energy business zones.
7	"SEC. 1400V-2. TAX BENEFITS FOR CLEAN ENERGY BUSI-
8	NESS ZONES.
9	"(a) Wage Credit.—For purposes of section
10	1396—
11	"(1) In general.—Subject to the modifica-
12	tions in paragraph (2), a Clean Energy Business
13	Zone shall be treated as an empowerment zone.
14	"(2) Modifications.—In applying section
15	1396 with respect to Clean Energy Business
16	Zones—
17	"(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of quali-
18	fied wages—
19	"(i) subsection (b) thereof shall be ap-
20	plied by substituting '30 percent' for '20
21	percent', and
22	"(ii) subsection (c) thereof shall be
23	applied by substituting '\$20,000' for
24	'\$15,000' each place it appears.

1	"(B) QUALIFIED WAGES.—For purposes of
2	subparagraph (A), the term 'qualified wages'
3	means qualified zone wages (as defined in sec-
4	tion 1396(c)) for services performed by the em-
5	ployee—
6	"(i) in the construction of any quali-
7	fied Green building, or
8	"(ii) in any qualified clean energy fa-
9	cility.
10	"(C) COORDINATION WITH BASIC CRED-
11	IT.—The $$15,000$ amount in section $1396(c)(2)$
12	(without regard to this subsection) shall be re-
13	duced for any calendar year by the amount of
14	wages paid or incurred during such year which
15	are taken into account in determining the credit
16	under this subsection.
17	"(3) Credit to be refundable.—So much
18	of the credit allowable by section 1396 solely by rea-
19	son of this subsection shall be treated as allowed
20	under subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of this
21	chapter.
22	"(b) Expansion of Work Opportunity Credit.—
23	"(1) In general.—For purposes of section 51,
24	a Clean Energy Business Zone employee shall be
25	treated as a member of a targeted group.

1	"(2) Clean energy business zone business
2	EMPLOYEE.—For purposes of this subsection—
3	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Clean En-
4	ergy Business Zone employee' means, with re-
5	spect to any period, any employee of a Clean
6	Energy Business Zone business if—
7	"(i) the principal place of abode of
8	such employee during such period is within
9	a Clean Energy Business Zone,
10	"(ii) substantially all the services per-
11	formed during such period by such em-
12	ployee for such business are performed—
13	"(I) in the construction of any
14	qualified Green energy building, or
15	"(II) in a qualified clean energy
16	facility, and
17	"(iii) such employee had been em-
18	ployed in a carbon-intensive business at
19	any time during the 1-year period ending
20	on the date that the individual was first
21	hired by the employer.
22	"(B) Clean energy business zone
23	BUSINESS.—The term 'Clean Energy Business
24	Zone business' means any trade or business—

1	"(i) which is located in a Clean En-
2	ergy Business Zone, and
3	"(ii) at least 15 percent of the em-
4	ployees of which are residents of a Clean
5	Energy Business Zone.
6	"(C) Special rules for determining
7	AMOUNT OF CREDIT.—For purposes of applying
8	subpart F of part IV of subchapter A of this
9	chapter to wages paid or incurred to any Clean
10	Energy Business Zone business employee—
11	"(i) subsections $(c)(4)$ and $(i)(2)$ of
12	section 51 shall not apply, and
13	"(ii) in determining qualified wages,
14	the following shall apply in lieu of section
15	51(b):
16	"(I) QUALIFIED WAGES.—The
17	term 'qualified wages' means wages
18	paid or incurred by the employer to
19	individuals who are Clean Energy
20	Business Zone business employees of
21	such employer for work performed
22	during calendar year 2010.
23	((II) Only first \$12,000 of
24	WAGES PER CALENDAR YEAR TAKEN
25	INTO ACCOUNT.—The amount of the

1	qualified wages which may be taken
2	into account with respect to any indi-
3	vidual shall not exceed \$12,000 per
4	calendar year.
5	"(c) Clean Renewable Energy Bonds.—
6	"(1) In general.—For purposes of section
7	54(c)(2), the term 'qualified facility' includes—
8	"(A) any qualified Green building, and
9	"(B) any qualified clean energy facility.
10	"(2) Extension.—In the case of bonds which
11	are clean renewable energy bonds under section 54
12	solely by reason of this subsection, section 54(m)
13	shall be applied by substituting 'December 31, 2020'
14	for 'December 31, 2009'.
15	"(d) Increased Expensing Under Section
16	179.—
17	"(1) In general.—For purposes of section
18	179, the dollar amount in effect under section
19	179(b)(1) for the taxable year shall be increased by
20	the lesser of—
21	"(A) \$250,000, or
22	"(B) the cost of qualified section 179
23	Clean Energy Business Zone property placed in
24	service during the taxable year.

1	"(2) Qualified section 179 clean energy
2	BUSINESS ZONE PROPERTY.—For purposes of this
3	subsection—
4	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified
5	section 179 Clean Energy Business Zone prop-
6	erty' means section 179 property (as defined in
7	section 179(d))—
8	"(i) which is described in section
9	168(k)(2)(A)(i) or which is nonresidential
10	real property or residential rental property,
11	"(ii) substantially all of the use of
12	which is in—
13	"(I) a qualified Green building or
14	a qualified clean energy facility, and
15	"(II) the active conduct of a
16	trade or business by the taxpayer in
17	such Zone,
18	"(iii) the original use of which in the
19	Clean Energy Business Zone commences
20	with the taxpayer on or after the date of
21	the enactment of this section,
22	"(iv) which is acquired by the tax-
23	payer by purchase (as defined in section
24	179(d)) on or after such date, but only if

1	no written binding contract for the acquisi-
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2	tion was in effect before such date, and
3	"(v) which is placed in service by the
4	taxpayer during the 2-year period begin-
5	ning on such date (during the 3-year pe-
6	riod beginning on such date, in the case of
7	nonresidential real property and residential
8	rental property).
9	"(B) Exceptions.—
10	"(i) Alternative depreciation
11	PROPERTY.—Such term shall not include
12	any property described in section
13	168(k)(2)(D)(i).
14	"(ii) Tax-exempt bond-financed
15	PROPERTY.—Such term shall not include
16	any property any portion of which is fi-
17	nanced with the proceeds of any obligation
18	the interest on which is exempt from tax
19	under section 103.
20	"(iii) Election out.—If a taxpayer
21	makes an election under this clause with
22	respect to any class of property for any
23	taxable year, this subsection shall not
24	apply to all property in such class placed
25	in service during such taxable year.

1	"(3) Special rules.—For purposes of this
2	subsection, rules similar to the rules of subpara-
3	graph (E) of section 168(k)(2) shall apply, except
4	that such subparagraph shall be applied—
5	"(A) without regard to 'and before Janu-
6	ary 1, 2010' in clause (i) thereof, and
7	"(B) by substituting 'qualified Clean En-
8	ergy Business Zone property' for 'qualified
9	property' in clause (iv) thereof.
10	"(4) Allowance against alternative min-
11	IMUM TAX.—For purposes of this subsection, rules
12	similar to the rules of section 168(k)(2)(G) shall
13	apply.
14	"(5) Recapture.—For purposes of this sub-
15	section, rules similar to the rules under section
16	179(d)(10) shall apply with respect to any qualified
17	section 179 Clean Energy Business Zone property
18	which ceases to be qualified section 179 Clean En-
19	ergy Business Zone property.
20	"(e) Exclusion of Capital Gain on Stock in
21	Qualified Businesses.—
22	"(1) In general.—Gross income shall not in-
23	clude qualified capital gain from the sale or ex-
24	change of any Clean Energy Business Zone asset
25	held for more than 5 years.

1	"(2) Clean energy business zone asset.—
2	For purposes of this subsection—
3	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Clean En-
4	ergy Business Zone asset' means—
5	"(i) any Clean Energy Business Zone
6	business stock,
7	"(ii) any Clean Energy Business Zone
8	partnership interest, and
9	"(iii) any Clean Energy Business
10	Zone business property.
11	"(B) CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS ZONE
12	BUSINESS STOCK.—
13	"(i) In General.—The term 'Clean
14	Energy Business Zone business stock'
15	means any stock in a domestic corporation
16	which is originally issued after the date of
17	the enactment of this section if—
18	"(I) such stock is acquired by the
19	taxpayer, before January 1, 2013, at
20	its original issue (directly or through
21	an underwriter) solely in exchange for
22	eash,
23	"(II) as of the time such stock
24	was issued, such corporation was a
25	Clean Energy Business Zone business

1	(or, in the case of a new corporation,
2	such corporation was being organized
3	for purposes of being a Clean Energy
4	Business Zone business), and
5	"(III) during substantially all of
6	the taxpayer's holding period for such
7	stock, such corporation qualified as a
8	Clean Energy Business Zone business.
9	"(ii) Redemptions.—A rule similar
10	to the rule of section $1202(c)(3)$ shall
11	apply for purposes of this paragraph.
12	"(C) CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS ZONE
13	PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.—The term 'Clean
14	Energy Business Zone partnership interest'
15	means any capital or profits interest in a do-
16	mestic partnership which is originally issued
17	after the date of the enactment of this section
18	if—
19	"(i) such interest is acquired by the
20	taxpayer, before January 1, 2013, from
21	the partnership solely in exchange for cash,
22	"(ii) as of the time such interest was
23	acquired, such partnership was a Clean
24	Energy Business Zone business (or, in the
25	case of a new partnership, such partner-

1	ship was being organized for purposes of
2	being a Clean Energy Business Zone busi-
3	ness), and
4	"(iii) during substantially all of the
5	taxpayer's holding period for such interest,
6	such partnership qualified as a Clean En-
7	ergy Business Zone business.
8	A rule similar to the rule of subparagraph
9	(B)(ii) shall apply for purposes of this subpara-
10	graph.
11	"(D) CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS ZONE
12	BUSINESS PROPERTY.—
13	"(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Clean
14	Energy Business Zone business property'
15	means property which is a qualified Green
16	building if—
17	"(I) such property was acquired
18	by the taxpayer by purchase (as de-
19	fined in section $179(d)(2)$ after the
20	date of the enactment of this section
21	and before January 1, 2013,
22	"(II) the original use of such
23	property in the Clean Energy Busi-
24	ness Zone commences with the tax-
25	payer, and

1	"(III) during substantially all of
2	the taxpayer's holding period for such
3	property, substantially all of the use
4	of such property was in a Clean En-
5	ergy Business Zone business of the
6	taxpayer.
7	"(ii) Special rule for buildings
8	WHICH ARE SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED.—
9	"(I) In general.—The require-
10	ments of subclauses (I) and (II) of
11	clause (i) shall be treated as met with
12	respect to—
13	"(aa) property which is sub-
14	stantially improved by the tax-
15	payer before January 1, 2013,
16	and
17	"(bb) any land on which
18	such property is located.
19	"(II) Substantial improve-
20	MENT.—For purposes of subclause
21	(I), property shall be treated as sub-
22	stantially improved by the taxpayer
23	only if, during any 24-month period
24	beginning after December 31, 1997,
25	additions to basis with respect to such

property in the hands of the taxpayer
exceed the greater of \$5,000 or an
amount equal to the adjusted basis of
such property at the beginning of
such 24-month period in the hands of
the taxpayer.

"(E) TREATMENT OF CLEAN ENERGY

- "(E) TREATMENT OF CLEAN ENERGY
 BUSINESS ZONE TERMINATION.—The termination of the designation of the Clean Energy
 Business Zone shall be disregarded for purposes
 of determining whether any property is a Clean
 Energy Business Zone asset.
- "(F) TREATMENT OF SUBSEQUENT PURCHASERS, ETC.—The term 'Clean Energy Business Zone asset' includes any property which would be a Clean Energy Business Zone asset but for subparagraph (B)(i)(I), (C)(i), or (D)(i) (I) or (II) in the hands of the taxpayer if such property was a Clean Energy Business Zone asset in the hands of a prior holder.
- "(G) 5-YEAR SAFE HARBOR.—If any property ceases to be a Clean Energy Business Zone asset by reason of subparagraph (B)(i)(III), (C)(iii), or (D)(i)(III) after the 5-year period beginning on the date the taxpayer acquired

1	such property, such property shall continue to
2	be treated as meeting the requirements of such
3	paragraph; except that the amount of gain to
4	which paragraph (1) applies on any sale or ex-
5	change of such property shall not exceed the
6	amount which would be qualified capital gain
7	had such property been sold on the date of such
8	cessation.
9	"(3) Clean energy business zone busi-
10	NESS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term
11	'Clean Energy Business Zone business' means any
12	trade or business if—
13	"(A) all buildings located in any Clean En-
14	ergy Business Zone which are owned or occu-
15	pied by such trade or business are qualified
16	Green buildings or qualified clean energy facili-
17	ties, and
18	"(B) such business would be an enterprise
19	zone business (as defined in section 1397C) de-
20	termined—
21	"(i) by substituting '80 percent' for
22	'50 percent' in subsections (b)(2) and
23	(e)(1) of section 1397C,

1	"(ii) by substituting '15 percent' for
2	'35 percent' in subsections (b)(6) and
3	(e)(5) of section 1397C, and
4	"(iii) by treating no area other than
5	the Clean Energy Business Zone as an em-
6	powerment zone or enterprise community.
7	"(4) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL
8	RULES.—
9	"(A) QUALIFIED CAPITAL GAIN.—Except
10	as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the
11	term 'qualified capital gain' means any gain
12	recognized on the sale or exchange of—
13	"(i) a capital asset, or
14	"(ii) property used in the trade or
15	business (as defined in section 1231(b).
16	"(B) Gain before enactment or after
17	2012 NOT QUALIFIED.—The term 'qualified cap-
18	ital gain' shall not include any gain attributable
19	to periods before the date of the enactment of
20	this section or after December 31, 2012.
21	"(C) CERTAIN GAIN NOT QUALIFIED.—The
22	term 'qualified capital gain' shall not include
23	any gain which would be treated as ordinary in-
24	come under section 1245 or under section 1250

1 if section 1250 applied to all depreciation rath-2 er than the additional depreciation.

- "(D) Intangibles and land not integral part of clean energy business zone business.—The term 'qualified capital gain' shall not include any gain which is attributable to real property, or an intangible asset, which is not an integral part of a Clean Energy Business Zone business.
- "(E) Related Party Transactions.—
 The term 'qualified capital gain' shall not include any gain attributable, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, to a transaction with a related person. For purposes of this paragraph, persons are related to each other if such persons are described in section 267(b) or 707(b)(1).
- "(5) CERTAIN RULES TO APPLY.—Rules similar to the rules of subsections (g), (h), (i)(2), and (j) of section 1202 shall apply for purposes of this subsection.
- "(6) Sales and exchanges of interests in Partnerships and 8 corporations which are Clean energy business zone businesses.—In the case of the sale or exchange of an interest in a

1	partnership, or of stock in an S corporation, which
2	was a Clean Energy Business Zone business during
3	substantially all of the period the taxpayer held such
4	interest or stock, the amount of qualified capital
5	gain shall be determined without regard to—
6	"(A) any gain which is attributable to real
7	property, or an intangible asset, which is not an
8	integral part of a Clean Energy Business Zone
9	business, and
10	"(B) any gain attributable to periods be-
11	fore the date of the enactment of this section or
12	after December 31, 2012.
13	"(f) Expensing of Portion of Cost of Quali-
14	FIED CLEAN ENERGY FACILITIES.—
15	"(1) In general.—A taxpayer may elect to
16	treat the cost of any qualified clean energy facility
17	property as an expense which is not chargeable to
18	capital account. Any cost so treated shall be allowed
19	as a deduction for the taxable year in which the
20	property is placed in service.
21	"(2) Maximum amount of deduction.—
22	"(A) In general.—The deduction under
23	paragraph (1) for any taxable year shall not ex-
24	ceed \$1.000.000.

1	"(B) Deduction allowed for only 5
2	YEARS.—A deduction shall be allowed under
3	this paragraph for any qualified clean energy
4	facility property only for the taxable year dur-
5	ing which the qualified clean energy facility is
6	placed in service and for the first 4 taxable
7	years thereafter.
8	"(3) Qualified clean energy facility
9	PROPERTY.—For purposes of this subsection, the
10	term 'qualified clean energy facility property' means
11	any property—
12	"(A) with respect to which depreciation (or
13	amortization in lieu of depreciation) is allow-
14	able, and
15	"(B) which is installed on or in any quali-
16	fied clean energy facility.
17	"(4) Basis reduction.—For purposes of this
18	subtitle, if a deduction is allowed under this sub-
19	section with respect to any qualified clean energy fa-
20	cility property, the basis of such property shall be
21	reduced by the amount of the deduction so allowed.
22	"(5) Termination.—This subsection shall not
23	apply to property placed in service after December
24	31, 2012.
25	"(g) Definitions.—For purposes of this section—

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"(1) Qualified green building.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'qualified Green building' means any building which is located in a Clean Energy Business Zone and which meets the standards prescribed by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under subparagraph (B) for such building.

"(B) STANDARDS.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall develop and implement, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, standards for a national energy and environmental building retrofit policy for single-family and multifamily residences. The Administrator shall develop and implement, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy and the Director of Commercial High-Performance Green Buildings, standards for a national energy and environmental building retrofit policy for nonresidential buildings. The programs to implement the residential and nonresidential policies based on the standards developed under this subparagraph shall together be known as the Retrofit for Energy and Environmental Performance (REEP) program.

1	"(2) Qualified clean energy facility.—
2	The term 'qualified clean energy facility' means any
3	facility which is located in a Clean Energy Business
4	Zone and which relates to the manufacture or re-
5	search of clean energy or clean energy technologies,
6	including the components used in such manufacture
7	or research and the production of clean energy.".
8	(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sub-
9	chapters for chapter 1 of such Code is amended by adding
10	at the end the following new item:
	"SUBCHAPTER Z. CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS ZONES.".
11	(e) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
12	this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the
13	date of the enactment of this Act.
14	SEC. 3. WAIVER OF SBA LOAN FEES.
15	(a) Section 7(a) Loans.—Paragraph (18) section
16	7(a) of the Small Business Act is amended by adding at
17	the end the following new subparagraph:
18	"(C) No fee permitted for clean en-
19	ERGY CONSTRUCTION LOANS.—No fee may be
20	imposed under this paragraph with respect to
21	any loan made before January 1, 2020, for the
22	construction of any qualified Green building (as
23	defined in section 1400V–2(g) of the Internal
24	Revenue Code of 1986) or any qualified clean

energy facility (as defined in such section).".

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- 1 (b) Section 504 Loans.—Paragraph (2) of section
- 2 503(d) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 is
- 3 amended by adding at the end the following new sentence:
- 4 "No fee may be imposed under this paragraph with re-
- 5 spect to any loan made before January 1, 2020, for the
- 6 construction of any qualified Green building (as defined
- 7 in section 1400V-2(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of
- 8 1986) or any qualified clean energy facility (as defined
- 9 in such section)."

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