

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 223

To amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to further the adoption of technologies developed by the Department of Agriculture, to encourage small business partnerships in the development of energy through biorefineries, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 13, 2009

Mr. FEINGOLD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to further the adoption of technologies developed by the Department of Agriculture, to encourage small business partnerships in the development of energy through biorefineries, 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 “Energy and Tech-
5 nology Advancement Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL ENERGY AND FORESTRY BUSINESS AS-**
 2 **SISTANCE.**

3 Title IX of the Farm Security and Rural Investment
 4 Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8101 et seq.) is amended by adding
 5 at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 9014. FEDERAL ENERGY AND FORESTRY BUSINESS**
 7 **ASSISTANCE.**

8 “(a) SUPPORT FOR BUSINESS INCUBATORS.—

9 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

10 “(A) BUSINESS INCUBATOR.—The term
 11 ‘business incubator’ means the programs and
 12 assistance designed to accelerate the successful
 13 development of new or existing small businesses
 14 through an array of support resources and serv-
 15 ices, developed and managed by the Secretary.

16 “(B) DEPARTMENT.—The term ‘Depart-
 17 ment’ means the Department of Agriculture.

18 “(2) DUTY OF SECRETARY.—To further the
 19 adoption of technologies developed by the Depart-
 20 ment, the Secretary shall establish criteria and pro-
 21 cedures to facilitate and encourage businesses and
 22 other organizations—

23 “(A) to rent equipment and property
 24 owned by the Federal Government for the de-
 25 velopment of new and improved products and

1 processes (including the production of reason-
2 able quantities of product for sale);

3 “(B) to authorize employees of the Depart-
4 ment and employees of the private sector to
5 work together in experimental or production fa-
6 cilities owned by—

7 “(i) the Federal Government; or

8 “(ii) a private entity;

9 “(C) to provide business support services
10 to start-up and small businesses; and

11 “(D) to enter into cooperative agreements
12 with Indian tribes, States, counties, institutions
13 of higher education, and other educational and
14 governmental units to support business incuba-
15 tors for businesses that use technologies and
16 products of interest to the Secretary.

17 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOREFINERY PILOT
18 PLANT.—

19 “(1) DUTY OF SECRETARY.—Not later than 90
20 days after the date of enactment of this section, in
21 accordance with paragraph (2), the Secretary shall
22 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a
23 plan for the development and construction of a bio-
24 refinery pilot plant.

1 “(2) COST ESTIMATES.—The Secretary shall in-
 2 clude in the plan described in paragraph (1) a com-
 3 prehensive estimate of each cost relating to the de-
 4 velopment and construction of the biorefinery pilot
 5 plant that is the subject of the plan.

6 “(3) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The biorefinery
 7 pilot plant that is the subject of the plan described
 8 in paragraph (1) shall be designed to enable the
 9 plant—

10 “(A) to produce liquid fuels from woody,
 11 agricultural, and other biomass—

12 “(i) in a flexible, multi-bioproduct
 13 manner;

14 “(ii) in a sustainable manner that ad-
 15 dresses life-cycle inputs and outputs; and

16 “(iii) in quantities sufficient—

17 “(I) to provide proof of process;
 18 and

19 “(II) to allow for business incu-
 20 bator and support services described
 21 in subsection (a); and

22 “(B) to employ, at a minimum,
 23 thermochemical and biochemical conversion
 24 processes in the production of liquid fuels.

1 “(c) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available to
2 the Secretary for programmatic and administrative ex-
3 penditures, the Secretary shall use such sums as are nec-
4 essary to carry out this section.”.

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