

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2515

To promote the use of clean cookstoves and fuels to save lives, improve livelihoods, empower women, and combat harmful pollution by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2012

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. DURBIN) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To promote the use of clean cookstoves and fuels to save lives, improve livelihoods, empower women, and combat harmful pollution by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions.

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 “Clean Cookstoves Sup-
5 port Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) Nearly half the world's population cooks
2 their food over open fires or inefficient, polluting,
3 and unsafe cookstoves using firewood, dung, or coal.
4 Smoke from the use of these traditional cookstoves
5 and open fires is associated with a number of chron-
6 ic and acute diseases, including respiratory illnesses
7 such as pneumonia, heart disease, and cancer, with
8 women and young children affected disproportion-
9 ately.

10 (2) It is estimated that smoke from cooking
11 fuels accounts for nearly 2,000,000 deaths annually
12 in the developing world, which is more than the
13 deaths from malaria, tuberculosis, or HIV. Millions
14 more are sickened from the toxic smoke and thou-
15 sands suffer burns annually from open fires or un-
16 safe cookstoves.

17 (3) The amount of biomass cooking fuel re-
18 quired each year can reach up to 2 tons per family.
19 Where demand for local biomass outstrips the nat-
20 ural regrowth of resources, local environmental prob-
21 lems can result.

22 (4) Tremendous amounts of time—a burden
23 shouldered disproportionately by women and chil-
24 dren—is spent collecting and managing biomass
25 cooking fuel resources.

1 (5) As nearby fuel supplies dwindle, women are
2 forced to go farther to find fuel to cook their fami-
3 lies' meals. In some regions, women and girls risk
4 rape and other forms of gender-based violence dur-
5 ing the up to 20 hours per week they spend away
6 from their communities gathering firewood.

7 (6) Recent studies show that black carbon cre-
8 ated from biomass cookstoves significantly contrib-
9 utes to regional air pollution and climate change.
10 Black carbon emissions from residential cookstoves
11 in developing countries account for an estimated 21
12 percent of total global inventory, and mitigation in
13 this sector represents a large potential public health
14 benefit.

15 (7) The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves is
16 an innovative public-private partnership led by the
17 United Nations Foundation that was created to en-
18 able the adoption of clean and efficient stoves in
19 100,000,000 homes by 2020. The Alliance intends to
20 work with public, private, and non-profit partners to
21 raise \$250,000,000 towards overcoming market bar-
22 riers that currently impede the production, deploy-
23 ment, and use of clean cookstoves in the developing
24 world.

1 (8) The United States Government has com-
2 mitted a total of up to \$105,000,000 over the first
3 five years of the Alliance to help it achieve its goal
4 of spurring the adoption of clean cookstoves in
5 100,000,000 households by 2020, as follows:

6 (A) The Department of State and the
7 United States Agency for International Devel-
8 opment will commit \$11,570,000 to promote
9 the adoption of clean cookstoves, encourage for-
10 eign government support, and further economic
11 opportunities for women.

12 (B) The Department of Energy will com-
13 mit \$12,500,000 for applied research to ad-
14 vance clean cookstove technologies and designs.

15 (C) The Department of Health and
16 Human Services will commit \$24,700,000
17 through the National Institutes of Health and
18 \$2,180,000 through the Centers for Disease
19 Control and Prevention for health research and
20 implementation evaluation.

21 (D) The Environmental Protection Agency
22 will commit \$6,000,000 to enhance stove testing
23 and evaluation, cookstove design innovation,
24 and the assessment of health benefits.

1 (E) The Overseas Private Investment Cor-
2 poration will commit up to \$50,000,000 for
3 debt financing or insurance for projects that
4 provide access to clean, consistent, and afford-
5 able energy through the promotion of clean
6 cookstoves.

7 **SEC. 3. ADVANCEMENT OF GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN**
8 **COOKSTOVES GOALS.**

9 The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Ad-
10 ministrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the
11 Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human
12 Services, the Administrator of the United States Agency
13 for International Development, and the heads of other rel-
14 evant Federal agencies, and in coordination with relevant
15 international nongovernmental organizations and private
16 and governmental entities, shall work to advance the goals
17 and work of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, in-
18 cluding through—

19 (1) applied research and development to im-
20 prove design, lower costs, promote technology adop-
21 tion, conduct health research and evaluation, and de-
22 velop global industry standards and testing protocols
23 for cookstoves;

24 (2) diplomatic engagement to encourage a com-
25 mercial market for clean stoves and fuels, reduce

1 trade barriers, promote consumer awareness, im-
2 prove access to large-scale carbon financing, and fos-
3 ter women-owned businesses along the entire busi-
4 ness chain;

5 (3) international development projects to help
6 build commercial businesses to manufacture, market,
7 distribute, sell, and service clean stoves and fuels;

8 (4) development efforts related to refugee
9 camps, disaster relief, and long-term programs
10 aimed at assisting women and girls; and

11 (5) financing or insurance to support projects
12 that provide access to clean, affordable energy and
13 energy savings through the manufacture, sale, and
14 purchase of cookstoves.

15 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 (a) DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND UNITED STATES
17 AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—There is
18 authorized to be appropriated out of funds available to the
19 Department of State and the United States Agency for
20 International Development not less than \$11,570,000 for
21 fiscal years 2013 through 2017 to work with the Global
22 Alliance for Clean Cookstoves and foreign governments—

23 (1) to address the harmful effects of smoke ex-
24 posure from traditional cookstoves;

1 (2) to support applied and operational research
2 into how people use improved stove technology, and
3 how indoor air quality and sanitation interventions
4 can improve household environments and promote
5 economic opportunities for women; and

6 (3) to carry out other activities under this Act.

7 (b) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—There is authorized
8 to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy out of avail-
9 able funds not less than \$12,500,000 for fiscal years 2013
10 through 2017 to work with the Global Alliance for Clean
11 Cookstoves to conduct research aimed at addressing the
12 technical barriers to the development of low-emission,
13 high-efficiency cookstoves through activities in areas such
14 as combustion, heat transfer, and materials development,
15 and to carry out other activities under this Act.

16 (c) NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.—There is
17 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Health
18 and Human Services out of available funds not less than
19 \$24,700,000 for fiscal years 2013 through 2017 for the
20 National Institutes of Health to work with the Global Alli-
21 ance for Clean Cookstoves—

22 (1) to support ongoing research and research
23 training projects, including—

1 (A) studies on the cookstove-related effects
2 of cookstoves smoke on pulmonary, cancer, and
3 cardiac diseases;

4 (B) studies on the relationship between in-
5 door air pollution and low-birth weight; and

6 (C) studies on the most effective ways to
7 introduce and educate users on safety and the
8 proper use of cookstoves;

9 (2) to support efforts to develop improved
10 measuring devices, expand epidemiologic studies,
11 and conduct clinical trials;

12 (3) to support training programs designed to
13 help prepare scientists in low- and middle-income
14 countries to engage in related research and evalua-
15 tion activities; and

16 (4) to carry out other activities under this Act.

17 (d) CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVEN-
18 TION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
19 retary of Health and Human Services out of available
20 funds not less than \$2,180,000 for fiscal years 2013
21 through 2017 for the Centers for Disease Control and
22 Prevention to work with the Global Alliance for Clean
23 Cookstoves—

24 (1) to demonstrate the health benefits of imple-
25 menting clean cookstove programs;

1 (2) to promote a better understanding of the re-
2 lationship between human exposures and health out-
3 comes;

4 (3) to integrate clean cookstoves and fuels im-
5 plementation with other public health programs;

6 (4) to evaluate cookstove program implementa-
7 tion; and

8 (5) to carry out other activities under this Act.

9 (e) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.—There
10 is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator of
11 the Environmental Protection Agency out of available
12 funds not less than \$6,000,000 for fiscal years 2013
13 through 2017 to work with the Global Alliance for Clean
14 Cookstoves—

15 (1) to conduct stove testing and evaluation in
16 both the lab and the field;

17 (2) to promote cookstove design innovations,
18 possibly including a design competition and prize;

19 (3) to perform assessments focused on health
20 and exposure benefits of clean cookstoves and fuels;

21 (4) to use the expertise, lessons learned, and
22 network developed in launching and leading the
23 Partnership for Clean Indoor Air to help the Alli-
24 ance meet its 2020 goal; and

1 (5) to carry out other activities under this Act.

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