

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3437

To amend the Natural Gas Act to provide assistance to States to carry out initiatives to promote the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel and public and private investment in natural gas vehicles and transportation infrastructure.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25, 2012

Mr. CASEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Natural Gas Act to provide assistance to States to carry out initiatives to promote the use of natural gas as a transportation fuel and public and private investment in natural gas vehicles and transportation infrastructure.

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 “State Natural Gas Act
5 of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS TO STATES TO PROMOTE NATURAL GAS**
2 **USE IN TRANSPORTATION.**

3 The Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717 et seq.) is
4 amended—

5 (1) by redesignating sections 25 and 26 (15
6 U.S.C. 717v, 717w) as sections 26 and 27, respec-
7 tively; and

8 (2) by inserting after section 24 (15 U.S.C.
9 717u) the following:

10 **“SEC. 25. GRANTS TO STATES TO PROMOTE NATURAL GAS**
11 **USE IN TRANSPORTATION.**

12 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

13 “(1) to provide assistance to States to carry out
14 initiatives to promote—

15 “(A) the use of natural gas as a transpor-
16 tation fuel; and

17 “(B) public and private investment in nat-
18 ural gas vehicles and transportation infrastruc-
19 ture; and

20 “(2) to recognize that each State is different
21 and initiatives are most effective when the initiatives
22 are structured to meet the specific needs and chal-
23 lenges of an individual State.

24 “(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Energy (referred to
25 in this section as the ‘Secretary’) shall make grants avail-

1 able to States to independently carry out initiatives within
2 the States to promote the purposes of this section.

3 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A State shall be eligible to re-
4 ceive a grant under this section if—

5 “(1) the State submits an application to the
6 Secretary at such time, in such form, and containing
7 such information as the Secretary may prescribe, in-
8 cluding a plan for initiatives to be carried out using
9 the grant; and

10 “(2) the Secretary—

11 “(A) determines that the application and
12 plan of the State promote the purposes of this
13 section; and

14 “(B) approves the application.

15 “(d) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Subject to the availability
16 of funds under subsection (f), the minimum amount of a
17 grant provided to a State that submits an application that
18 is approved by the Secretary under this section shall be
19 \$1,000,000.

20 “(e) ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS.—Subject to the avail-
21 ability of funds under subsection (f), in addition to the
22 minimum amount that is provided under subsection (d),
23 the Secretary shall increase the amount of grants available
24 to eligible States to reflect the potential of applications
25 and plans of the States to promote the purposes of this

1 section (as determined by the Secretary), taking into con-
2 sideration—

3 “(1) the relative amount of public and private
4 funds that are likely to be leveraged by initiatives
5 described in the plan of the State;

6 “(2) the degree that initiatives will support a
7 need that is unlikely to be met by the private sector
8 absent grant program funding;

9 “(3) the degree that initiatives will act as a
10 bridge to private investment and sustainable market
11 conditions; and

12 “(4) the amount of funds invested in public and
13 private investment in States in natural gas transpor-
14 tation and infrastructure.

15 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
17 \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2013 through
18 2022.”.

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