

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1263

To provide for the establishment of a Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Fund to assist United States businesses with exporting clean energy technology products and services.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2015

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

A BILL

To provide for the establishment of a Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Fund to assist United States businesses with exporting clean energy technology products and services.

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 Energy Tech-
5 nology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Act of
6 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING**
2 **AND EXPORT ASSISTANCE FUND.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY.—The term
5 “clean energy technology” means a technology re-
6 lated to the production, use, transmission, storage,
7 control, or conservation of energy that will con-
8 tribute to a stabilization of atmospheric greenhouse
9 gas concentrations through reduction, avoidance, or
10 sequestration of energy-related emissions and—

11 (A) reduce the need for additional energy
12 supplies by using existing energy supplies with
13 greater efficiency or by transmitting, distrib-
14 uting, or transporting energy with greater effec-
15 tiveness through the infrastructure of the
16 United States; or

17 (B) diversify the sources of energy supply
18 of the United States to strengthen energy secu-
19 rity and to increase supplies with a favorable
20 balance of environmental effects if the entire
21 technology system is considered.

22 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
23 the Secretary of Commerce.

24 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

25 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
26 a Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Ex-

1 port Assistance Fund (in this section referred to as
2 the “Fund”), to be administered through the Inter-
3 national Trade Administration.

4 (2) USE OF FUND.—The Secretary shall admin-
5 ister the Fund—

6 (A) to promote policies that will reduce
7 production costs and encourage innovation, in-
8 vestment, and productivity in the clean energy
9 technology sector; and

10 (B) to implement a national clean energy
11 technology export strategy.

12 (3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Fund is to
13 ensure that United States clean energy technology
14 firms, including clean energy technology parts sup-
15 pliers and engineering and design firms, have the in-
16 formation and assistance they need to be competitive
17 and create clean energy technology sector jobs in the
18 United States.

19 (c) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary, consistent with the
20 National Export Initiative (established by Executive Order
21 13534 (75 Fed. Reg. 12,433)), shall use amounts in the
22 Fund to provide information, tools, and other assistance
23 to United States businesses to promote clean energy tech-
24 nology manufacturing and facilitate the export of clean en-

1 ergy technology products and services. Such assistance
2 shall include—

3 (1) developing critical analysis of policies to re-
4 duce production costs and promote innovation, in-
5 vestment, and productivity in the clean energy tech-
6 nology sector;

7 (2) helping educate companies about how to tai-
8 lor their activities to specific markets with respect to
9 their product slate, financing, marketing, assembly,
10 and logistics;

11 (3) helping United States companies learn
12 about the export process and export opportunities in
13 foreign markets;

14 (4) helping United States companies to navi-
15 gate foreign markets; and

16 (5) helping United States companies provide
17 input regarding clean energy technology manufac-
18 turing and trade policy developments and trade pro-
19 motion.

20 (d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

21 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
23 retary shall submit to Congress a report indicating
24 how funds made available to carry out this section
25 will be used to—

1 (A) focus on small- and medium-sized
2 United States businesses;

3 (B) encourage the creation and mainte-
4 nance of the greatest number of clean energy
5 technology jobs in the United States; and

6 (C) encourage the domestic production of
7 clean energy technology products and services,
8 including materials, components, equipment,
9 parts, and supplies related in any way to the
10 product or service.

11 (2) REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF PRO-
12 GRAM.—Not later than January 1, 2019, the Sec-
13 retary shall submit to Congress a report assessing
14 the extent to which assistance provided under this
15 section—

16 (A) has been successful in—

17 (i) developing critical analysis of poli-
18 cies to reduce production costs and pro-
19 mote innovation, investment, and produc-
20 tivity in the clean energy technology sector;

21 (ii) increasing the competitiveness of
22 United States clean energy technology
23 firms in emerging markets;

24 (iii) assisting United States busi-
25 nesses, specifically small- and medium-

1 sized firms, with exporting clean energy
2 technology products and services;

3 (iv) creating jobs directly related to
4 the clean energy technology sector in the
5 United States, including specific informa-
6 tion as to the nature, location, and dura-
7 tion of those jobs and the methodology
8 used by the Secretary to compile such in-
9 formation; and

10 (v) helping United States companies
11 provide input regarding clean energy tech-
12 nology manufacturing and trade policy de-
13 velopments and trade promotion; and

14 (B) should be continued.

15 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
17 appropriated to the Secretary \$15,000,000 for each
18 of fiscal years 2015 through 2019 to carry out this
19 section.

20 (2) LIMITATION.—No assistance provided using
21 funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be
22 provided in the form of a monetary grant.

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