

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1465

To terminate the prohibitions on the exportation and importation of natural gas, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 28, 2017

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

A BILL

To terminate the prohibitions on the exportation and importation of natural gas, 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 “License Natural Gas
5 Now Act of 2017” or the “LNG Now Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) the exportation of natural gas produced in
9 the United States is in the interest of the United
10 States; and

1 (2) because natural gas produced in the United
 2 States has a lower greenhouse gas emissions profile
 3 than other energy sources used in high volumes in
 4 other countries, the exportation of natural gas from
 5 the United States may help lower global emissions of
 6 carbon dioxide.

7 **SEC. 3. EXPORTATION OR IMPORTATION OF NATURAL GAS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act
 9 (15 U.S.C. 717b) is amended—

10 (1) by striking the section heading and all that
 11 follows through “(a) After” and inserting the fol-
 12 lowing:

13 **“SEC. 3. EXPORTATION OR IMPORTATION OF NATURAL**
 14 **GAS; LNG TERMINALS.**

15 “(a) AUTHORIZATION TO EXPORT OR IMPORT NAT-
 16 URAL GAS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—After”;

18 (2) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) in paragraph (1) (as so designated)—

20 (i) in the second sentence, by striking

21 “, unless,” and all that follows through the

22 period at the end of the sentence and in-

23 serting “without modification or delay.”;

24 and

(ii) in the third sentence, by striking “by its order” and all that follows through the period at the end of the sentence and inserting “condition the order on a requirement that the applicant, on request, provide relevant data to the Commission to facilitate the information collection and statistical activities of the Commission.”; and (B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) PROHIBITIONS.—

“(A) PROHIBITION ON RESTRICTING NATURAL GAS IMPORTATION OR EXPORTATION.— Except as provided in paragraph (1) or in any Federal authorization to export natural gas from the United States to a foreign country or to import natural gas into the United States from a foreign country in effect on the date of enactment of the LNG Now Act of 2017, to promote the efficient exploration, production, storage, supply, marketing, pricing, and regulation of energy resources, including fossil fuels, no employee of the Federal Government shall impose or enforce any restriction or condition on—

1 “(i) the exportation of natural gas
 2 from the United States to a foreign coun-
 3 try; or

4 “(ii) the importation of natural gas
 5 into the United States from a foreign
 6 country.

7 “(B) TREATMENT OF IMPORTED NATURAL
 8 GAS.—The Commission shall not treat, on the
 9 basis of national origin, any imported natural
 10 gas on an unjust, unreasonable, unduly dis-
 11 criminatory, or preferential basis.

12 “(3) CONSIDERATION OF IMPORTED NATURAL
 13 GAS AS A FIRST SALE.—The importation of natural
 14 gas into the United States from a foreign country
 15 shall be considered to be a first sale (as defined in
 16 section 2 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (15
 17 U.S.C. 3301)).”;

18 (3) by striking subsections (b) and (c); and

19 (4) by redesignating subsections (d) through (f)
 20 as subsections (b) through (d), respectively.

21 (b) EFFECT.—The amendments made by subsection
 22 (a) shall not affect any Federal authorization to export
 23 natural gas from the United States to a foreign country
 24 or to import natural gas into the United States from a

1 foreign country in effect on the date of enactment of the
2 LNG Now Act of 2017.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORT ON FOSTERING NATURAL GAS EXPORTS.**

4 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit
6 to Congress a report describing actions taken by the
7 United States Government, and actions that could be
8 taken by the United States Government, to foster the ex-
9 portation of natural gas from the United States to foreign
10 countries.

11 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON EXISTING REGULATIONS.**

12 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
13 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit
14 to Congress a report that identifies regulations in effect
15 as of such date of enactment that inhibit the growth of
16 the market for natural gas exported from the United
17 States.

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