

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8613

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States, in coordination with the National Academy of Sciences, to study alternatives for a nonpartisan congressional office or agency to project the net greenhouse gas emissions likely to be caused by Federal legislation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 16, 2020

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. CROW, and Ms. DEGETTE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States, in coordination with the National Academy of Sciences, to study alternatives for a nonpartisan congressional office or agency to project the net greenhouse gas emissions likely to be caused by Federal legislation, 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 “Carbon Cost Act of
5 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDY OF ALTERNATIVES FOR A CONGRESSIONAL**
2 **OFFICE TO PROJECT THE NET GREENHOUSE**
3 **GAS EMISSIONS LIKELY TO BE CAUSED BY**
4 **FEDERAL LEGISLATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
7 of the United States, in coordination with the National
8 Academy of Sciences, shall—

9 (1) study alternatives for a nonpartisan con-
10 gressional office or agency—

11 (A) to make thorough, science-based pro-
12 jections on whether the enactment, full funding,
13 and implementation of particular Federal legis-
14 lation are likely to cause a net increase or de-
15 crease in global greenhouse gas emissions over
16 a specified period; and

17 (B) to quantify any such projected increase
18 or decrease; and

19 (2) submit a report to the Congress containing
20 the results of such study, including recommenda-
21 tions.

22 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—The study under subsection
23 (a) shall address each of the following:

24 (1) Whether a new office or agency should be
25 established for purposes of carrying out the func-
26 tions described in subsection (a)(1), or whether such

1 functions should be vested in one or more existing
2 offices or agencies.

3 (2) How to ensure the office or agency remains
4 nonpartisan and science-focused.

5 (3) How to involve governmental and private
6 experts, including—

7 (A) whether Federal officers and employ-
8 ees should be detailed to the office or agency
9 carrying out the functions described in sub-
10 section (a)(1); and

11 (B) how to involve appropriate experts in
12 the analysis of projected greenhouse gas emis-
13 sions from each of the following: electric power
14 generation; transportation; residential, commer-
15 cial, and industrial fuel use; natural gas and oil
16 systems; coal mining and abandoned mines; ag-
17 riculture; industrial processes; land use, land
18 use change, and forestry; and waste manage-
19 ment.

20 (4) Lessons that can be learned from State leg-
21 islatures that have successfully implemented carbon
22 scoring for legislative proposals.

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