

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 716

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 20, 1993

Referred jointly to the Committees on Government Operations and House  
Administration

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## AN ACT

To require that all Federal lithographic printing be performed using ink made from vegetable oil and materials derived from other renewable resources, 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 “Vegetable Ink Printing  
5 Act of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 The Congress finds that—

3 (1) more than 95 percent of Federal printing  
4 involving documents or publications is performed  
5 using lithographic inks;

6 (2) various types of oil, including petroleum and  
7 vegetable oil, are used in lithographic ink;

8 (3) increasing the amount of vegetable oil used  
9 in a lithographic ink would—

10 (A) help reduce the Nation's use of  
11 nonrenewable energy resources;

12 (B) result in the use of products that are  
13 less damaging to the environment;

14 (C) result in a reduction of volatile organic  
15 compound emissions; and

16 (D) increase the use of renewable agricul-  
17 tural products.

18 (4) the technology exists to use vegetable oil in  
19 lithographic ink and, in some applications, to use  
20 lithographic ink that uses no petroleum distillates in  
21 the liquid portion of the ink;

22 (5) some lithographic inks have contained vege-  
23 table oils for many years; other lithographic inks  
24 have more recently begun to use vegetable oil;

1 (6) according to the Government Printing  
2 Office, using vegetable-based ink appears to add lit-  
3 tle if any additional cost to Government printing;

4 (7) use of vegetable-based ink in Federal Gov-  
5 ernment printing should further develop—

6 (A) the commercial viability of vegetable-  
7 based ink, which could result in demand, for  
8 domestic use alone, for 2,500,000,000 pounds  
9 of vegetable crops or 500,000,000 pounds of  
10 vegetable oil; and

11 (B) a product that could help the United  
12 States retain or enlarge its share of the world  
13 market for vegetable ink.

14 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL PRINTING REQUIREMENTS.**

15 (a) DEFINITION.—In this section, “Federal agency”  
16 means—

17 (1) an executive department, military depart-  
18 ment, Government corporation, Government-con-  
19 trolled corporation, or other establishment in the ex-  
20 ecutive branch of the Government (including the Ex-  
21 ecutive Office of the President), or any independent  
22 regulatory agency; and

23 (2) an establishment or component of the legis-  
24 lative or judicial branch of the Government.

25 (b) VEGETABLE-BASED INKS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
2 law, beginning on the date that is 180 days after the  
3 date of enactment of this Act, all lithographic print-  
4 ing performed or procured by a Federal agency that  
5 uses oil in its ink shall use the maximum amount of  
6 vegetable oil and materials derived from other re-  
7 newable resources that are technologically feasible  
8 and result in printing costs that are cost-competitive  
9 with printing using petroleum-based inks.

10           (2) MINIMUM PERCENTAGES.—Except as pro-  
11 vided in paragraph (3), in no event shall a Federal  
12 agency use any ink that contains less than the fol-  
13 lowing percentages of vegetable oil in its ink used for  
14 lithographic printing:

15                   (A) In the case of news inks, 40 percent.

16                   (B) In the case of sheet-fed inks, 20 per-  
17 cent.

18                   (C) In the case of forms inks, 20 percent.

19                   (D) In the case of heat-set inks, 10 per-  
20 cent.

21           (3) SUSPENSION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF PARA-  
22 GRAPH (2).—(A) At any time at which a Federal  
23 agency determines that the cost of printing with veg-  
24 etable-based ink is significantly greater than the cost  
25 of printing with petroleum-based ink, the Federal

1 agency may perform or procure lithographic printing  
2 using ink that contains less than the percentages of  
3 vegetable oil in its ink than those specified in para-  
4 graph (2) until such time as the cost of printing  
5 with vegetable-based ink is not significantly greater  
6 than the cost of printing with petroleum-based ink.

7 (B) A determination made under subparagraph  
8 (A) shall be reviewed—

9 (i) at least once every quarter, for the per-  
10 formance or procurement of printing of mate-  
11 rials that are printed on a regular basis; and

12 (ii) prior to performing or procuring the  
13 printing of particular material of significant  
14 size that is printed once or is printed at inter-  
15 vals of 6 months or more.

Passed the Senate November 19 (legislative day, No-  
vember 2), 1993.

Attest:

WALTER J. STEWART,

*Secretary.*