

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2407

To amend the Public Buildings Act of 1959 to direct the Administrator of General Services to provide for the procurement of photovoltaic solar electric systems for use in public buildings, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2001

Mr. OBERSTAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Public Buildings Act of 1959 to direct the Administrator of General Services to provide for the procurement of photovoltaic solar electric systems for use in public buildings, 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 “Federal Photovoltaic
5 Utilization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. USE OF PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY IN PUBLIC BUILD-**
2 **INGS.**

3 The Public Buildings Act of 1959 (40 U.S.C. 601
4 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 22. USE OF PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY IN PUBLIC**
6 **BUILDINGS.**

7 **“(a) PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY COMMERCIALIZATION**
8 **PROGRAM.—**

9 **“(1) IN GENERAL.—**The Administrator may es-
10 tablish a photovoltaic energy commercialization pro-
11 gram for the procurement and installation of photo-
12 voltaic solar electric systems for electric production
13 in new and existing public buildings.

14 **“(2) PURPOSES.—**The purposes of the program
15 shall be to accomplish the following:

16 **“(A) To accelerate the growth of a com-**
17 **mercially viable photovoltaic industry in order**
18 **to make this energy system available to the gen-**
19 **eral public as an option which can reduce the**
20 **national consumption of fossil fuel.**

21 **“(B) To reduce the fossil fuel consumption**
22 **and costs of the Federal Government.**

23 **“(C) To attain the goal of 20,000 solar**
24 **systems in public buildings contained in the**
25 **Federal Government’s Million Solar Roof Initia-**
26 **tive of 1997.**

1 “(D) To stimulate the general use within
2 the Federal Government of life-cycle costing
3 and innovative procurement methods.

4 “(E) To develop program performance
5 data to support policy decisions on future incen-
6 tive programs with respect to energy.

7 “(3) ACQUISITION OF PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR
8 ELECTRIC SYSTEMS.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The program shall
10 provide for the acquisition of photovoltaic solar
11 electric systems and associated storage capa-
12 bility for use in public buildings.

13 “(B) ACQUISITION LEVELS.—The acquisi-
14 tion of photovoltaic electric systems shall be at
15 a level substantial enough to allow use of low-
16 cost production techniques with at least 150
17 megawatts (peak) cumulative acquired during
18 the 5 years of the program.

19 “(4) ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator
20 shall administer the program and shall—

21 “(A) prescribe such rules and regulations
22 as may be appropriate to monitor and assess
23 the performance and operation of photovoltaic
24 solar electric systems installed pursuant to this
25 subsection;

1 “(B) develop innovative procurement strat-
2 egies for the acquisition of such systems; and

3 “(C) transmit to the Committee on Trans-
4 portation and Infrastructure of the House of
5 Representatives and to the Committee on Envi-
6 ronment and Public Works of the Senate an an-
7 nual report on the results of the program.

8 “(b) PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS EVALUATION PRO-
9 GRAM.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days
11 after the date of enactment of this section, the Ad-
12 ministrator and the Secretary of Energy shall jointly
13 establish a photovoltaic solar energy systems evalua-
14 tion program to evaluate such photovoltaic solar en-
15 ergy systems as are required in public buildings.

16 “(2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENT.—In evaluating
17 photovoltaic solar energy systems under the pro-
18 gram, the Administrator shall ensure that such sys-
19 tems reflect the most advanced technology.

20 “(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

21 “(1) PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY COMMERCIALIZA-
22 TION PROGRAM.—There is authorized to be appro-
23 priated to carry out subsection (a) \$210,000,000 for
24 each of fiscal years 2002 through 2006. Such sums
25 shall remain available until expended.

1 “(2) PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS EVALUATION
2 PROGRAM.—There is authorized to be appropriated
3 to carry out subsection (b) \$52,700,000 for each of
4 fiscal years 2002 through 2006. Such sums shall re-
5 main available until expended.”.

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