

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 3684

To study and promote the use of energy efficient computer servers in the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2006

Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To study and promote the use of energy efficient computer servers in the United States.

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. STUDY.**

4 Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Pro-
6 tection Agency, through the Energy Star program, shall
7 transmit to the Congress the results of a study analyzing
8 the rapid growth and energy consumption of computer
9 data centers by the Federal Government and private en-
10 terprise. The study shall include—

1 (1) an overview of the growth trends associated
2 with data centers and the utilization of servers in
3 the Federal Government and private sector;

4 (2) analysis of the industry migration to the use
5 of energy efficient microchips and servers designed
6 to provide energy efficient computing and reduce the
7 costs associated with constructing, operating, and
8 maintaining large and medium scale data centers;

9 (3) analysis of the potential cost savings to the
10 Federal Government, large institutional data center
11 operators, private enterprise, and consumers avail-
12 able through the adoption of energy efficient data
13 centers and servers;

14 (4) analysis of the potential cost savings and
15 benefits to the energy supply chain through the
16 adoption of energy efficient data centers and servers,
17 including reduced demand, enhanced capacity, and
18 reduced strain on existing grid infrastructure, and
19 consideration of secondary benefits, including poten-
20 tial impact of related advantages associated with
21 substantial domestic energy savings;

22 (5) analysis of the potential impacts of energy
23 efficiency on product performance, including com-
24 puting functionality, reliability, speed, and features,
25 and overall cost;

1 (6) analysis of the potential cost savings and
2 benefits to the energy supply chain through the use
3 of stationary fuel cells for backup power and distrib-
4 uted generation;

5 (7) an overview of current government incen-
6 tives offered for energy efficient products and serv-
7 ices and consideration of similar incentives to en-
8 courage the adoption of energy efficient data centers
9 and servers;

10 (8) recommendations regarding potential incen-
11 tives and voluntary programs that could be used to
12 advance the adoption of energy efficient data centers
13 and computing; and

14 (9) a meaningful opportunity for interested
15 stakeholders, including affected industry stake-
16 holders and energy efficiency advocates, to provide
17 comments, data, and other information on the scope,
18 contents, and conclusions of the study.

19 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

20 It is the sense of Congress that it is in the best inter-
21 est of the United States for purchasers of computer serv-
22 ers to give high priority to energy efficiency as a factor
23 in determining best value and performance for purchases
24 of computer servers.

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