

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2867

To authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for making prizes for advanced or transformational technologies for the production, consumption, and distribution of nonpetroleum-based alternative energy and energy efficiency.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2007

Mr. MCHENRY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for making prizes for advanced or transformational technologies for the production, consumption, and distribution of nonpetroleum-based alternative energy and energy efficiency.

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 “Independence Prize
5 Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) it is critical to eliminate the United States
2 dependence on foreign sources of oil;

3 (2) the United States imports 58 percent of the
4 total oil requirements of the United States, 41 per-
5 cent of which comes from countries belonging to the
6 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, in-
7 cluding Iran, Venezuela, and Libya; and

8 (3) American taxpayers have funded over
9 \$20,000,000,000 of research and development in the
10 areas of energy and renewable energy programs, nu-
11 clear energy, and science in the last 5 fiscal years.

12 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

13 The Secretary of Energy shall establish a program
14 for awarding prizes to United States entities for research,
15 development, and commercialization of advanced or trans-
16 formational technologies for the production, consumption,
17 and distribution of nonpetroleum-based alternative energy
18 and energy efficiency, with the goal of eliminating the
19 United States reliance on foreign sources of energy.

20 **SEC. 4. PRIZE COMPETITION GUIDELINES.**

21 The Secretary, in consultation with the advisory com-
22 mittee established under section 5, shall publish guidelines
23 for advertising prize competitions and their results, deter-
24 mining the amount of each prize, selecting the winners of

1 prize competitions, and otherwise administering prize com-
2 petitions under this Act.

3 **SEC. 5. ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish an
5 advisory committee, consisting of experts on the subjects
6 for which prizes may be awarded under this Act. The advi-
7 sory committee shall advise the Secretary on designing the
8 program, establishing the guidelines required under sec-
9 tion 4, selecting the winners of prize competitions, and
10 otherwise administering this Act.

11 (b) LIMITATIONS.—Members of the advisory com-
12 mittee may not—

13 (1) have personal or financial interests in, or be
14 an employee, officer, director, or agent of, any entity
15 that is a participant in a prize competition under
16 this Act; or

17 (2) have a familial or financial relationship with
18 an individual who is a participant in a prize competi-
19 tion under this Act.

20 **SEC. 6. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.**

21 The Secretary shall design the program under this
22 Act to prevent the unauthorized use or disclosure of a
23 prize competition participant's intellectual property, trade
24 secrets, and confidential business information.

1 **SEC. 7. FUNDING.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
3 retary for carrying out this Act \$250,000,000 for each of
4 the fiscal years 2008 through 2011.

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