

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 288

To establish a pilot program to provide assistance for partnerships supporting applied sciences in renewable energy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 2011

Ms. HIRONO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To establish a pilot program to provide assistance for partnerships supporting applied sciences in renewable energy.

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 “Renewable Energy Ap-
5 plied Partnerships (REAP) Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. APPLIED SCIENCES IN RENEWABLE ENERGY PILOT**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy
9 shall establish a research pilot program for award grants
10 to partnerships to improve education and training in sup-

1 port of applied sciences in the field of renewable energy
2 as part of a comprehensive program to enhance the quality
3 of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in-
4 struction at the secondary school and undergraduate lev-
5 els. Grants under this section may be used for—

6 (1) professional development and training for
7 teachers;

8 (2) purchase, rental, or leasing of equipment,
9 instrumentation, and other educational and training
10 materials;

11 (3) improvement of facilities for providing edu-
12 cation and training experiences in applied sciences in
13 the field of renewable energy;

14 (4) development of instructional programs de-
15 signed to integrate education and training in applied
16 sciences in renewable energy with the practical appli-
17 cation of that education and training;

18 (5) recruitment and retention of new faculty;

19 (6) encouraging collaboration between faculty
20 and industry partners;

21 (7) supporting outreach efforts to recruit stu-
22 dents; and

23 (8) assessment of the activities funded under
24 this Act.

1 (b) PARTNERSHIPS.—Grants awarded under sub-
2 section (a) shall be to the institution described in para-
3 graph (1), as part of a partnership that—

4 (1) includes a 2-year degree granting institution
5 of higher education offering an associates degree in
6 applied science in a renewable energy field;

7 (2) includes a 4-year degree granting institution
8 of higher education;

9 (3) includes a business or eligible nonprofit or-
10 ganization and labor organization; and

11 (4) may include a State educational agency,
12 other public agency, National Laboratory, or com-
13 munity-based organization.

14 (c) PREFERENCE.—The Secretary of Energy shall
15 give preference to awarding grants under this section for
16 partnerships—

17 (1) whose proposal incorporates a technical
18 preparation program described in section 203(c) of
19 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education
20 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2373(c)); or

21 (2) who can demonstrate the likely long-term
22 stability of the program without continued Federal
23 funding.

24 (d) DIVERSITY OF SUBJECT MATTER.—The Sec-
25 retary of Energy shall ensure that, to the extent possible,

1 grants are provided under this Act for partnerships rep-
2 resenting a wide diversity of renewable energy fields.

3 (e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
4 of activities carried out using amounts from a grant under
5 subsection (a) shall not exceed 40 percent.

6 (f) LIMITATION.—No single grant under subsection
7 (a) may be made in an amount greater than \$1,000,000
8 per year.

9 (g) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The Secretary of En-
10 ergy shall make publicly available all curricula, planning
11 documents, and other materials related to a project sup-
12 ported by a grant made under this Act.

13 (h) PROJECT REPORTS.—The Secretary of Energy
14 shall require grant recipients under subsection (a) to sub-
15 mit a report to the Secretary, not later than 3 years after
16 receiving the grant, on the results of the project supported
17 by the grant. Each such report shall include an assessment
18 of which elements of the project supported with the grant
19 were successful and which were not, along with an identi-
20 fication and analysis of improvements that could have
21 made the project more successful. The Secretary shall
22 make all reports submitted under this subsection available
23 to the public.

24 (i) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
25 term “renewable energy” has the meaning given that term

1 in section 609(a)(3) and (4) of the Public Utility Regu-
2 latory Policies Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 918c(a)(3) and (4)).

3 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

4 The Secretary of Energy shall evaluate the effective-
5 ness of activities carried out under this Act. A report docu-
6 menting the results of that evaluation shall be submitted
7 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce and
8 the Committee on Science and Technology of the House
9 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
10 Science, and Transportation and the Committee on
11 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate not
12 later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.
13 The report shall identify best practices and materials de-
14 veloped and demonstrated by partnerships awarded a
15 grant.

16 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
18 this Act—

19 (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;

20 (2) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

21 (3) such sums as may be necessary for each of
22 fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

○