

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6511

To authorize the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program to lease underutilized Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2018

Mr. BARTON (for himself and Mr. RUSH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program to lease underutilized Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities, 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 “Strategic Petroleum
5 Reserve Reform Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF UNDERUTILIZED STRATEGIC PETROLEUM**
7 **RESERVE FACILITIES.**

8 Section 168 of the Energy Policy and Conservation
9 Act (42 U.S.C. 6247a) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 168. USE OF UNDERUTILIZED FACILITIES.**

2 “(a) **AUTHORITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provi-
3 sion of this title, the Secretary may establish and carry
4 out a program to lease underutilized Strategic Petroleum
5 Reserve storage facilities and related facilities to the pri-
6 vate sector, or a foreign government or its representative.
7 Petroleum products stored under this section are not part
8 of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

9 “(b) **PROTECTION OF FACILITIES.**—Any lease en-
10 tered into under the program established under subsection
11 (a) shall contain provisions providing for fees to fully com-
12 pensate the United States for all related costs of storage
13 and removals of petroleum products (including the propor-
14 tionate cost of replacement facilities necessitated as a re-
15 sult of any withdrawals) incurred by the United States
16 as a result of such lease.

17 “(c) **ACCESS BY THE UNITED STATES.**—The Sec-
18 retary shall ensure that leasing of facilities under the pro-
19 gram established under subsection (a) does not impair the
20 ability of the United States to withdraw, distribute, or sell
21 petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve
22 in response to an energy emergency or to the obligations
23 of the United States under the Agreement on an Inter-
24 national Energy Program.

25 “(d) **NATIONAL SECURITY.**—The Secretary shall en-
26 sure that leasing of facilities under the program estab-

1 lished under subsection (a) to a foreign government or its
 2 representative will not impair national security.

3 “(e) DEPOSITS OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
 5 graph (2), amounts received through the leasing of
 6 facilities under the program established under sub-
 7 section (a) shall be deposited in the general fund of
 8 the Treasury during the fiscal year in which such
 9 amounts are received.

10 “(2) COSTS.—The Secretary may use for costs
 11 described in subsection (b), without further appro-
 12 priation, amounts received through the leasing of fa-
 13 cilities under the program established under sub-
 14 section (a).”.

15 **SEC. 3. PILOT PROGRAM TO LEASE STRATEGIC PETRO-**
 16 **LEUM RESERVE FACILITIES.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title I of the Energy
 18 Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6231 et seq.) is
 19 amended by adding at the end the following:

20 **“SEC. 170. PILOT PROGRAM TO LEASE STORAGE AND RE-**
 21 **LATED FACILITIES.**

22 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—In carrying out section 168
 23 and not later than 180 days after the date of enactment
 24 of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Reform Act, the Sec-

1 retary shall establish and carry out a pilot program to
2 make available for lease—

3 “(1) capacity for storage of up to 200,000,000
4 barrels of petroleum products at Strategic Petroleum
5 Reserve storage facilities; and

6 “(2) related facilities.

7 “(b) CONTENTS.—In carrying out the pilot program
8 established under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

9 “(1) identify appropriate Strategic Petroleum
10 Reserve storage facilities and related facilities to
11 lease, in order to make maximum use of such facili-
12 ties;

13 “(2) identify and implement any changes to fa-
14 cilities or facility operations necessary to so lease
15 such facilities, including any such changes necessary
16 to ensure the long-term structural viability and use
17 of the facilities for purposes of this part and part C;

18 “(3) make such facilities available for lease; and

19 “(4) identify environmental effects, including
20 benefits, of leasing storage facilities and related fa-
21 cilities.

22 “(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
23 of enactment of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Reform
24 Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on

1 the status of the pilot program established under sub-
2 section (a).”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
4 tents for the Energy Policy and Conservation Act is
5 amended by adding after the item relating to section 169
6 the following:

“Sec. 170. Pilot program to lease storage and related facilities.”.

