

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7197

To authorize the Secretary of Energy to make grants to local educational agencies for purposes of supporting renewable energy-based heating and cooling systems in schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 29, 2018

Miss RICE of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Energy to make grants to local educational agencies for purposes of supporting renewable energy-based heating and cooling systems in schools.

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 HVAC En-
5 ergy And Technology for Schools Act” or the “Renewable
6 HEAT for Schools Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RENEWABLE ENERGY HEATING AND COOLING SYS-**
2 **TEMS GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy
4 shall, from funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (g),
5 make grants to local educational agencies for purposes of
6 encouraging schools to use heating and cooling systems
7 that use renewable energy.

8 (b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
9 under this section, a local educational agency shall submit
10 an application to the Secretary, in a time and manner to
11 be prescribed by the Secretary, that identifies proposed
12 projects such grant would be used to fund.

13 (c) SELECTION.—In selecting grant recipients, the
14 Secretary shall give priority to applicants whose applica-
15 tions—

16 (1) propose projects that address the needs of
17 schools with heating or cooling systems in need of
18 immediate replacement; and

19 (2) propose an effective plan for the evaluation,
20 measurement, and verification of energy savings.

21 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available by a
22 grant made under this section may be used by a recipient
23 only to—

24 (1) install a heating or cooling system that uses
25 renewable energy in an elementary school or sec-
26 ondary school; or

1 (2) maintain and repair such a system installed
2 using funds from a grant made under this section.

3 (e) COST-SHARING.—A local educational agency that
4 receives a grant under this section shall provide, from non-
5 Federal sources, not less than 50 percent of the funds for
6 the total cost of each project funded by such grant. The
7 non-Federal share may be provided in the form of in-kind
8 contributions.

9 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.—The term “elemen-
11 tary school” has the meaning given such term in
12 section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
13 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

14 (2) GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP.—The term
15 “geothermal heat pump” means a system that pro-
16 vides heating and cooling by exchanging heat di-
17 rectly or indirectly with the ground using—

18 (A) a closed loop system, which transfers
19 heat by way of buried or immersed pipes that
20 contain a mix of water and working fluid;

21 (B) an open loop system, which circulates
22 ground or surface water directly into the build-
23 ing and returns the water to the same aquifer
24 or surface water source; or

1 (C) a food grade plate heat exchanger to
2 transfer heat between a municipal or private
3 potable water supply system and a closed inte-
4 rior loop employing heat pumps, in which the
5 potable water utilized could be returned to the
6 municipal or private supply system after pass-
7 ing through the heat exchanger.

8 (3) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term
9 “local educational agency” has the meaning given
10 such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and
11 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

12 (4) RENEWABLE ENERGY.—The term “renew-
13 able energy” means energy generated from—

14 (A) a renewable energy resource, as de-
15 fined in section 403(2) of the Renewable En-
16 ergy Resources Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C.
17 7372(2));

18 (B) geothermal resources, including a geo-
19 thermal heat pump; or

20 (C) any other source the Secretary deter-
21 mines appropriate for purposes of this section.

22 (5) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term “sec-
23 ondary school” has the meaning given such term in
24 section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
25 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

1 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Energy.

3 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
5 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023
6 for purposes of carrying out this section.

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