

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 438

To amend the Natural Gas Act to provide for expanded natural gas exports.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 15, 2023

Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Natural Gas Act to provide for expanded natural gas exports.

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 “Natural Gas Export
5 Expansion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATURAL GAS EXPORTS.**

7 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that expanding nat-
8 ural gas exports will lead to increased investment and de-
9 velopment of domestic supplies of natural gas that will
10 contribute to job growth and economic development.

1 (b) NATURAL GAS EXPORTS.—Section 3(c) of the
2 Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717b(c)) is amended—

3 (1) by inserting “or any other nation not ex-
4 cluded by this section” after “trade in natural gas”;

5 (2) by striking “(c) For purposes” and insert-
6 ing the following:

7 “(c) EXPEDITED APPLICATION AND APPROVAL
8 PROCESS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(2) EXCLUSIONS.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any nation subject to
13 sanctions or trade restrictions imposed by the
14 United States is excluded from expedited ap-
15 proval under paragraph (1).

16 “(B) DESIGNATION BY PRESIDENT OR
17 CONGRESS.—The President or Congress may
18 designate nations that may be excluded from
19 expedited approval under paragraph (1) for rea-
20 sons of national security.

21 “(3) ORDER NOT REQUIRED.—No order is re-
22 quired under subsection (a) to authorize the export
23 or import of any natural gas to or from Canada or
24 Mexico.”.