

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5568

To require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a Clean Cities Coalition Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 12, 2021

Mr. MCEACHIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a Clean Cities Coalition Program, 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 “Clean Cities Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. CLEAN CITIES COALITION PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a
7 program to be known as the Clean Cities Coalition Pro-
8 gram.

9 (b) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—In carrying out the pro-
10 gram under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

1 (1) establish criteria for designating local and
2 regional Clean Cities Coalitions, including criteria
3 that ensure that activities of Clean Cities Coalitions
4 benefit all communities, including rural communities
5 and environmental justice communities;

6 (2) designate local and regional Clean Cities
7 Coalitions that the Secretary determines meet the
8 criteria established under paragraph (1);

9 (3) ensure that there are active Clean Cities
10 Coalitions working in all 50 States, the District of
11 Columbia, and the territories;

12 (4) make awards to each designated Clean Cit-
13 ies Coalition for administrative and program ex-
14 penses of the coalition;

15 (5) make competitive awards to designated
16 Clean Cities Coalitions for projects and activities de-
17 scribed in subsection (c);

18 (6) make competitive awards to non-profit orga-
19 nizations to provide technical assistance, training,
20 and organizational support to designated Clean Cit-
21 ies Coalitions;

22 (7) provide opportunities for communication
23 and sharing of best practices among designated
24 Clean Cities Coalitions; and

(8) maintain, and make available to the public, a centralized database of information included in the reports submitted under subsection (d).

(c) COMPETITIVE AWARDS.—

(1) PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES.—Projects and activities eligible for awards under subsection (b)(5) are projects and activities that reduce petroleum consumption, improve air quality, promote energy and economic security, and encourage deployment of a diverse, domestic supply of alternative fuels in the transportation sector by—

(A) encouraging the purchase and use of alternative fuel vehicles and alternative fuels, including by fleet managers;

(B) expediting the establishment of local, regional, and national infrastructure to fuel alternative fuel vehicles;

(C) advancing the use of other petroleum fuel reduction technologies and strategies;

(D) conducting outreach and education activities to advance the use of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles;

(E) providing training and technical assistance and tools to users that adopt petroleum fuel reduction technologies; or

1 (F) collaborating with and training offi-
2 cials and first responders with responsibility for
3 permitting and enforcing fire, building, and
4 other safety codes related to the deployment
5 and use of alternative fuels or alternative fuel
6 vehicles.

7 (2) COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the
8 cost of a project or activity for which an award is
9 made under subsection (b)(5) shall be not less than
10 80 percent.

11 (d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each designated Clean Cities
12 Coalition shall submit an annual report to the Secretary
13 on the activities and accomplishments of the coalition.

14 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) ALTERNATIVE FUEL.—The term “alter-
16 native fuel” has the meaning given such term in sec-
17 tion 32901 of title 49, United States Code.

18 (2) ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE.—The term
19 “alternative fuel vehicle” means any vehicle that is
20 capable of operating, partially or exclusively, on an
21 alternative fuel.

22 (3) COMMUNITY OF COLOR.—The term “com-
23 munity of color” means any geographically distinct
24 area the population of color of which is higher than

1 the average population of color of the State in which
2 the community is located.

3 (4) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY.—
4 The term “environmental justice community” means
5 any population of color, community of color, indige-
6 nous community, or low-income community that ex-
7 periences a disproportionate burden of the negative
8 human health and environmental impacts of pollu-
9 tion or other environmental hazards.

10 (5) INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY.—The term “in-
11 digenous community” means—

12 (A) a federally recognized Indian Tribe;

13 (B) a State-recognized Indian Tribe;

14 (C) an Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian
15 community or organization; and

16 (D) any other community of indigenous
17 people, including communities in other coun-
18 tries.

19 (6) LOW INCOME.—The term “low income”
20 means an annual household income equal to, or less
21 than, the greater of—

22 (A) an amount equal to 80 percent of the
23 median income of the area in which the house-
24 hold is located, as reported by the Department
25 of Housing and Urban Development; and

1 (B) 200 percent of the Federal poverty
2 line.

3 (7) LOW-INCOME COMMUNITY.—The term “low-
4 income community” means any census block group
5 in which 30 percent or more of the population are
6 individuals with low income.

7 (8) POPULATION OF COLOR.—The term “popu-
8 lation of color” means a population of individuals
9 who identify as—

- 10 (A) Black;
- 11 (B) African American;
- 12 (C) Asian;
- 13 (D) Pacific Islander;
- 14 (E) another non-White race;
- 15 (F) Hispanic;
- 16 (G) Latino; or
- 17 (H) linguistically isolated.

18 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
19 the Secretary of Energy.

20 (f) FUNDING.—

21 (1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
22 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
23 this section \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years
24 2022 through 2031, to remain available until ex-
25 pended.

1 (2) ALLOCATIONS.—The Secretary shall allo-
2 cate funds made available to carry out this section
3 in each fiscal year as follows:

4 (A) 35 percent of such funds shall be dis-
5 tributed as awards under subsection (b)(4).

6 (B) 50 percent of such funds shall be dis-
7 tributed as competitive awards under subsection
8 (b)(5), of which not less than 40 percent shall
9 be used to support activities that directly ben-
10 efit rural communities or environmental justice
11 communities.

12 (C) 5 percent of such funds shall be dis-
13 tributed as competitive awards under subsection
14 (b)(6).

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