

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1335

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a pilot program to award grants for the electrification of certain refrigerated vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a pilot program to award grants for the electrification of certain refrigerated vehicles, 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 “FREEZER Trucks
5 Act of 2021” or the “Fostering and Realizing Electrifica-

tion by Encouraging Zero Emission Refrigeration Trucks
Act of 2021”.

**SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE ELECTRIFICATION OF
CERTAIN REFRIGERATED VEHICLES.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall establish and carry out a pilot program to award funds, in the form of grants, rebates, and low-cost revolving loans, as determined appropriate by the Administrator, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to carry out projects described in subsection (b).

(b) PROJECTS.—An eligible entity receiving an award of funds under subsection (a) may use such funds only for one or more of the following projects:

(1) TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION UNIT REPLACEMENT.—A project to retrofit a heavy-duty vehicle by replacing or retrofitting the existing diesel-powered transport refrigeration unit in such vehicle with an electric transport refrigeration unit and retiring the replaced unit for scrappage.

(2) SHORE POWER INFRASTRUCTURE.—A project to purchase and install shore power infrastructure or other equipment that enables transport refrigeration units to connect to electric power and operate without using diesel fuel.

1 (c) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS.—The amount of an award
2 of funds under subsection (a) shall not exceed—

3 (1) for the costs of a project described in sub-
4 section (b)(1), 75 percent of such costs; and

5 (2) for the costs of a project described in sub-
6 section (b)(2), 55 percent of such costs.

7 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive an
8 award of funds under subsection (a), an eligible entity
9 shall submit to the Administrator an application at such
10 time, in such manner, and containing such information as
11 the Administrator may require, including—

12 (1) a description of the air quality in the area
13 served by the eligible entity, including a description
14 of how the air quality is affected by diesel emissions
15 from heavy-duty vehicles;

16 (2) a description of the project proposed by the
17 eligible entity, including—

18 (A) any technology to be used or funded by
19 the eligible entity; and

20 (B) a description of the heavy-duty vehicle
21 or vehicles of the eligible entity, that will be ret-
22 rofitted, if any, including—

23 (i) the number of such vehicles;

24 (ii) the uses of such vehicles;

1 (iii) the locations where such vehicles
2 dock for the purpose of loading or unload-
3 ing; and

4 (iv) the routes driven by such vehicles,
5 including the times at which such vehicles
6 are driven;

7 (3) an estimate of the cost of the proposed
8 project;

9 (4) a description of the age and expected life-
10 time control of the equipment used or funded by the
11 eligible entity; and

12 (5) provisions for the monitoring and
13 verification of the project including to verify
14 scrappage of any replaced units.

15 (e) PRIORITY.—In awarding funds under subsection
16 (a), the Administrator shall give priority to proposed
17 projects that, as determined by the Administrator—

18 (1) maximize public health benefits;

19 (2) are the most cost-effective; and

20 (3) will serve the communities that are most
21 polluted by diesel motor emissions, including com-
22 munities that the Administrator identifies as being
23 in either nonattainment or maintenance of the na-
24 tional ambient air quality standards for a criteria

1 pollutant under section 109 of the Clean Air Act (42
2 U.S.C. 7409), particularly for—

3 (A) ozone; and

4 (B) particulate matter.

5 (f) DATA RELEASE.—Not later than 120 days after
6 the date on which an award of funds is made under this
7 section, the Administrator shall publish on the website of
8 the Environmental Protection Agency, on a downloadable
9 electronic database, information with respect to such
10 award of funds, including—

11 (1) the name and location of the recipient;

12 (2) the total amount of funds awarded;

13 (3) the intended use or uses of the awarded
14 funds;

15 (4) the date on which the award of funds was
16 approved;

17 (5) where applicable, an estimate of any air pol-
18 lution or greenhouse gas emissions avoided as a re-
19 sult of the project funded by the award; and

20 (6) any other data the Administrator deter-
21 mines to be necessary for an evaluation of the use
22 and effect of awarded funds provided under this sec-
23 tion.

24 (g) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

1 (1) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later
2 than 1 year after the date of the establishment of
3 the pilot program under this section, and annually
4 thereafter until amounts made available to carry out
5 this section are fully expended, the Administrator
6 shall submit to Congress and make available to the
7 public a report that describes, with respect to the
8 applicable year—

9 (A) the number of applications for awards
10 of funds received under such program;

11 (B) all awards of funds made under such
12 program, including a summary of the data de-
13 scribed in subsection (f);

14 (C) the estimated reduction of annual
15 emissions of air pollutants regulated under sec-
16 tion 109 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.
17 7409), and the estimated reduction of green-
18 house gas emissions, associated with the awards
19 of funds made under such program;

20 (D) the number of awards of funds made
21 under such program for projects in communities
22 described in subsection (e)(3); and

23 (E) any other data the Administrator de-
24 termines to be necessary to describe the imple-

1 mentation, outcomes, or effectiveness of such
2 program.

3 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
4 after amounts made available to carry out this sec-
5 tion are fully expended, or 5 years after the pilot
6 program is established, whichever comes first, the
7 Administrator shall submit to Congress and make
8 available to the public a report that describes—

9 (A) all of the information collected for the
10 annual reports under paragraph (1);

11 (B) any benefits to the environment or
12 human health that could result from the wide-
13 spread application of electric transport refrig-
14 eration units for short-haul transportation and
15 delivery of perishable goods or other goods re-
16 quiring climate-controlled conditions, including
17 in low-income communities and communities of
18 color;

19 (C) any challenges or benefits that recipi-
20 ents of awards of funds under such program re-
21 ported with respect to the integration or use of
22 electric transport refrigeration units and associ-
23 ated technologies;

1 (D) an assessment of the national market
2 potential for electric transport refrigeration
3 units;

4 (E) an assessment of challenges and op-
5 portunities for widespread deployment of elec-
6 tric transport refrigeration units, including in
7 urban areas; and

8 (F) recommendations for how future Fed-
9 eral, State, and local programs can best support
10 the adoption and widespread deployment of
11 electric transport refrigeration units.

12 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
14 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
15 mental Protection Agency.

16 (2) DIESEL-POWERED TRANSPORT REFRIGERA-
17 TION UNIT.—The term “diesel-powered transport re-
18 frigeration unit” means a transport refrigeration
19 unit that is powered by an independent diesel inter-
20 nal combustion engine.

21 (3) ELECTRIC TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION
22 UNIT.—The term “electric transport refrigeration
23 unit” means a transport refrigeration unit in which
24 the refrigeration or climate-control system is driven
25 by an electric motor when connected to shore power

1 infrastructure or other equipment that enables
2 transport refrigeration units to connect to electric
3 power, including all-electric transport refrigeration
4 units, hybrid electric transport refrigeration units,
5 and standby electric transport refrigeration units.

6 (4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
7 ty” means—

8 (A) a regional, State, local, or Tribal agen-
9 cy, or port authority, with jurisdiction over
10 transportation or air quality;

11 (B) a nonprofit organization or institution
12 that—

13 (i) represents or provides pollution re-
14 duction or educational services to individ-
15 uals or organizations that own or operate
16 heavy-duty vehicles or fleets of heavy-duty
17 vehicles; or

18 (ii) has, as its principal purpose, the
19 promotion of air quality;

20 (C) an individual or entity that is the
21 owner of record of a heavy-duty vehicle or a
22 fleet of heavy-duty vehicles that operates for the
23 transportation and delivery of perishable goods
24 or other goods requiring climate-controlled con-
25 ditions;

1 (D) an individual or entity that is the
2 owner of record of a facility that operates as a
3 warehouse or storage facility for perishable
4 goods or other goods requiring climate-con-
5 trolled conditions; or

6 (E) a hospital or public health institution
7 that utilizes refrigeration for storage of perish-
8 able goods or other goods requiring climate-con-
9 trolled conditions.

10 (5) HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE.—The term “heavy-
11 duty vehicle” means—

12 (A) a commercial truck or van—

13 (i) used for the primary purpose of
14 transporting perishable goods or other
15 goods requiring climate-controlled condi-
16 tions; and

17 (ii) with a gross vehicle weight rating
18 greater than 6,000 pounds; or

19 (B) an insulated cargo trailer used in
20 transporting perishable goods or other goods re-
21 quiring climate-controlled conditions when
22 mounted on a semitrailer.

23 (6) SHORE POWER INFRASTRUCTURE.—The
24 term “shore power infrastructure” means electrical
25 infrastructure that provides power to the electric

1 transport refrigeration unit of a heavy-duty vehicle
2 when such vehicle is stationary on a property where
3 such vehicle is parked or loaded, including a food
4 distribution center or other location where heavy-
5 duty vehicles congregate.

6 (7) TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION UNIT.—The
7 term “transport refrigeration unit” means a climate-
8 control system installed on a heavy-duty vehicle for
9 the purpose of maintaining the quality of perishable
10 goods or other goods requiring climate-controlled
11 conditions.

12 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
14 appropriated to carry out this section \$30,000,000,
15 to remain available until expended.

16 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The Admin-
17 istrator may use not more than 1 percent of
18 amounts made available pursuant to paragraph (1)
19 for administrative expenses to carry out this section.

○