

Suspend the Rules And Pass the Bill, H.R. 83, with Amendments

(The amendments strike all after the enacting clause and insert a new text and a new title)

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 83

To require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of action plans aimed at reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels and increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2013

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (for herself, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. BORDALLO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of action plans aimed at reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels and increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. INSULAR AREAS AND FREELY ASSOCIATED**
2 **STATES ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN.—The term
5 “comprehensive energy plan” means a comprehen-
6 sive energy plan prepared and updated under sub-
7 sections (c) and (e) of section 604 of the Act entitled
8 “An Act to authorize appropriations for certain in-
9 sular areas of the United States, and for other pur-
10 poses”, approved December 24, 1980 (48 U.S.C.
11 1492).

12 (2) ENERGY ACTION PLAN.—The term “energy
13 action plan” means the plan required by subsection
14 (d).

15 (3) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term
16 “Freely Associated States” means the Federated
17 States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall
18 Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

19 (4) INSULAR AREAS.—The term “insular areas”
20 means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the
21 Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of
22 Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

23 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
24 the Secretary of the Interior.

25 (6) TEAM.—The term “team” means the team
26 established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

1 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall es-
3 tablish a team of technical, policy, and financial experts—

4 (1) to develop energy action plans addressing
5 the immediate, near-term, and long-term energy and
6 environmental needs of each of the insular areas and
7 Freely Associated States; and

8 (2) to assist each of the insular areas and Free-
9 ly Associated States in implementing an energy ac-
10 tion plan.

11 (c) PARTICIPATION OF REGIONAL UTILITY ORGANI-
12 ZATIONS.—In establishing the team, the Secretary shall
13 consider including regional utility organizations.

14 (d) ENERGY ACTION PLANS.—In accordance with
15 subsection (b), the energy action plans shall include—

16 (1) recommendations, based on the comprehen-
17 sive energy plan where applicable, to—

18 (A) promote access to affordable, reliable
19 energy;

20 (B) develop indigenous, nonfossil fuel en-
21 ergy resources; and

22 (C) improve performance of energy infra-
23 structure and overall energy efficiency;

1 (2) a schedule for implementation of such rec-
2 ommendations and identification and prioritization
3 of specific projects;

4 (3) a financial and engineering plan for imple-
5 menting and sustaining projects; and

6 (4) benchmarks for measuring progress toward
7 implementation.

8 (e) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Not later than 1 year
9 after the date on which the Secretary establishes the team
10 and annually thereafter, the team shall submit to the Sec-
11 retary a report detailing progress made in fulfilling its
12 charge and in implementing the energy action plans.

13 (f) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later
14 than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary re-
15 ceives a report submitted by the team under subsection
16 (e), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate commit-
17 tees of Congress a summary of the report of the team.

18 (g) FUNDING.—No additional funds are authorized
19 to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this
20 section, and this section shall be carried out using
21 amounts otherwise available for such purpose.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reli-

able energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.”.