To amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 5, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. ESTY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HONDA, Mr. JOYCE, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. POE, Ms. POE, Mr. POLIS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VELA, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide for the dissemination of information regarding available Federal programs relating to energy efficiency projects for schools, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act of 2015”.

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SEC. 2. COORDINATION OF ENERGY RETROFITTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS.

Section 392 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6371a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) COORDINATION OF ENERGY RETROFITTING ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOLS.—

“(1) DEFINITION OF SCHOOL.—Notwithstanding section 391(6), for the purposes of this subsection, the term ‘school’ means—

“(A) an elementary school or secondary school (as defined in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801));

“(B) an institution of higher education (as defined in section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)));

“(C) a school of the defense dependents’ education system under the Defense Dependents’ Education Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 921 et seq.) or established under section 2164 of title 10, United States Code;

“(D) a school operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs;
“(E) a tribally controlled school (as defined in section 5212 of the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2511)); and

“(F) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059e(b))).

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF CLEARINGHOUSE.—

The Secretary, acting through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, shall establish a clearinghouse to disseminate information regarding available Federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to help initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

“(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out paragraph (2), the Secretary shall—

“(A) consult with appropriate Federal agencies to develop a list of Federal programs and financing mechanisms that are, or may be, used for the purposes described in paragraph (2); and

“(B) coordinate with appropriate Federal agencies to develop a collaborative education and outreach effort to streamline communications and promote available Federal programs
and financing mechanisms described in sub-
paragraph (A), which may include the develop-
ment and maintenance of a single online re-
source that includes contact information for rel-
evant technical assistance in the Office of En-
ergy Efficiency and Renewable Energy that
States, local education agencies, and schools
may use to effectively access and use such Fed-
eral programs and financing mechanisms.”