

Committee Print

(SHOWING THE TEXT OF H.R. 4626 AS FAVORABLY FORWARDED BY THE
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119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4626

To amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2025

Mr. ALLEN 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 prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, 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 “Don’t Mess With My
5 Home Appliances Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRESCRIBING NEW OR AMENDED ENERGY CON-**
2 **SERVATION STANDARDS.**

3 (a) AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 325(m)(1) of the
5 Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C.
6 6295(m)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, for any
8 product, publish a notice of proposed rulemaking in-
9 cluding new proposed standards for such product
10 based on the criteria established under subsection
11 (o) and the procedures established under subsection
12 (p).”.

13 (2) AMENDMENT OF STANDARD.—Section
14 325(m)(3) of the Energy Policy and Conservation
15 Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(m)(3)) is amended to read as
16 follows:

17 “(3) AMENDMENT OF STANDARD.—Not later
18 than 2 years after a notice is issued under para-
19 graph (1), the Secretary shall publish a final rule
20 amending the standard for the product.”.

21 (3) APPLICATION TO PRODUCTS.—Section
22 325(m)(4) of the Energy Policy and Conservation
23 Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(m)(4)) is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 “(4) APPLICATION TO PRODUCTS.—An amend-
26 ment prescribed under this subsection shall apply to

1 a product that is manufactured after the date that
2 is 5 years after publication of the final rule estab-
3 lishing an applicable standard.”.

4 (b) PETITION FOR AMENDED STANDARD.—Section
5 325(n) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42
6 U.S.C. 6295(n)) is amended—

7 (1) in the subsection heading, by striking “AN
8 AMENDED STANDARD” and inserting “AMENDMENT
9 OR REVOCATION OF STANDARD”;

10 (2) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or revoked”
11 after “should be amended”;

12 (3) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
13 lows:

14 “(2) The Secretary shall grant a petition to deter-
15 mine if standards for a covered product should be amend-
16 ed or revoked if the Secretary finds that such petition con-
17 tains evidence, assuming no other evidence were consid-
18 ered, that such standards—

19 “(A) result in additional costs to consumers;

20 “(B) do not result in significant conservation of
21 energy or water;

22 “(C) are not technologically feasible; and

23 “(D) result in such covered product not being
24 commercially available in the United States to all
25 consumers.”;

1 (4) in paragraph (4)—

2 (A) by striking “NEW OR AMENDED
3 STANDARDS.” and inserting “NEW, AMENDED,
4 OR REVOKED STANDARDS.”;

5 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
6 and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively (and
7 by conforming the margins accordingly);

8 (C) by striking “Not later than 3 years”
9 and inserting the following:

10 “(A) Not later than 3 years”; and

11 (D) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(B) Not later than 180 days after the
13 date of granting a petition to revoke standards,
14 the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Reg-
15 ister—

16 “(i) a final rule revoking the stand-
17 ards; or

18 “(ii) a determination that it is not
19 necessary to revoke the standards.

20 “(C) The grant of a petition by the Sec-
21 retary under this subsection creates no pre-
22 sumption with respect to the Secretary’s deter-
23 mination of any of the criteria in a rulemaking
24 under this section.

1 “(D) Standards that have been revoked
2 pursuant to subparagraph (B) shall be consid-
3 ered to be in effect for purposes of section
4 327.”; and

5 (5) in paragraph (5)(B), by striking “3 years
6 (for refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, and freezers,
7 room air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes washers,
8 clothes dryers, fluorescent lamp ballasts, general
9 service fluorescent lamps, incandescent reflector
10 lamps, and kitchen ranges and ovens) or 5 years (for
11 central air conditioners and heat pumps, water heat-
12 ers, pool heaters, direct heating equipment and fur-
13 naces)” and inserting “5 years”;

14 (c) CRITERIA.—Section 325(o) of the Energy Policy
15 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(o)) is amended by
16 amending paragraphs (2) and (3) to read as follows:

17 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

18 “(A) DESIGN.—Any new or amended en-
19 ergy conservation standard prescribed by the
20 Secretary under this section for any type (or
21 class) of covered product shall be designed to
22 achieve the maximum improvement in, as appli-
23 cable, energy efficiency or water efficiency,
24 which the Secretary determines is techno-
25 logically feasible and economically justified.

1 “(B) TEST PROCEDURES.—If the Sec-
2 retary determines that a test procedure should
3 be prescribed or amended in accordance with
4 section 323 for a type (or class) of covered
5 product, the Secretary may not prescribe a new
6 or amended energy conservation standard under
7 this section for such type (or class) of covered
8 product unless the Secretary has prescribed or
9 amended (and published in the Federal Reg-
10 ister) a test procedure for such type (or class)
11 of covered product at least 180 days before
12 publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking with
13 respect to the new or amended energy conserva-
14 tion standard.

15 “(C) SIGNIFICANT CONSERVATION.—The
16 Secretary may not prescribe a new or amended
17 energy conservation standard under this section
18 for a type (or class) of covered product if the
19 Secretary determines that the establishment
20 and imposition of such energy conservation
21 standard will not result in significant conserva-
22 tion of, as applicable, energy or water.

23 “(D) TECHNOLOGICALLY FEASIBLE AND
24 ECONOMICALLY JUSTIFIED.—The Secretary
25 may not prescribe a new or amended energy

1 conservation standard under this section for a
2 type (or class) of covered product unless the
3 Secretary determines that the establishment
4 and imposition of such energy conservation
5 standard is technologically feasible and eco-
6 nomically justified.

7 “(E) DISCLOSURE.—The Secretary may
8 not prescribe a new or amended energy con-
9 servation standard under this section for a type
10 (or class) of covered product unless the Sec-
11 retary, not later than the date on which the
12 standard is prescribed, publicly discloses each
13 meeting held by the Secretary, during the 5-
14 year period preceding such date, with any entity
15 that—

16 “(i) has ties to the People’s Republic
17 of China or the Chinese Communist Party;

18 “(ii) has produced studies regarding,
19 or advocated for, regulations or policy to
20 limit, restrict, or ban the use of any type
21 of energy; and

22 “(iii) has applied for or received Fed-
23 eral funds.

24 “(3) FACTORS FOR DETERMINATION.—

25 “(A) ECONOMIC ANALYSIS.—

1 “(i) DETERMINATION.—Prior to pre-
2 scribing any new or amended energy con-
3 servation standard under this section for
4 any type (or class) of covered product, the
5 Secretary shall conduct a quantitative eco-
6 nomic impact analysis of imposition of the
7 energy conservation standard that deter-
8 mines the predicted—

9 “(I) effects of imposition of the
10 energy conservation standard on costs
11 and monetary benefits to consumers
12 of the products subject to such energy
13 conservation standard, including—

14 “(aa) costs to low-income
15 households; and

16 “(bb) variations in costs to
17 consumers based on differences
18 in regions, including rural popu-
19 lations, cost of living compari-
20 sons, and climatic differences;

21 “(II) effects of imposition of the
22 energy conservation standard on em-
23 ployment; and

24 “(III) lifecycle costs for the cov-
25 ered product, including costs associ-

1 ated with the purchase, installation,
2 maintenance, disposal, and replace-
3 ment of the covered product.

4 “(ii) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—The
5 Secretary shall provide public notice in the
6 Federal Register and at least 60 days for
7 public comment on the quantitative eco-
8 nomic impact analysis conducted under
9 clause (i).

10 “(B) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL COSTS
11 TO THE CONSUMER.—The Secretary may not
12 determine that imposition of an energy con-
13 servation standard is economically justified un-
14 less the Secretary, based on an economic anal-
15 ysis under subparagraph (A), determines that—

16 “(i) imposition of such energy con-
17 servation standard is not likely to result in
18 additional net costs to the consumer, in-
19 cluding any increase in net costs associated
20 with the purchase, installation, mainte-
21 nance, disposal, and replacement of the
22 covered product; and

23 “(ii) the monetary value of the energy
24 savings and, as applicable, water savings,
25 that the consumer will receive as a result

1 of such energy conservation standard dur-
2 ing the first 3 years after purchasing and
3 installing a covered product complying with
4 such energy conservation standard, as cal-
5 culated under the applicable test proce-
6 dure, will be greater than any increased
7 costs to the consumer of the covered prod-
8 uct due to imposition of such energy con-
9 servation standard, including increased
10 costs associated with the purchase, instal-
11 lation, maintenance, disposal, and replace-
12 ment of the covered product.

13 “(C) REQUIRED ENERGY OR WATER SAV-
14 INGS.—The Secretary may not determine that
15 imposition of an energy conservation standard
16 is economically justified unless the Secretary
17 determines that compliance with such energy
18 conservation standard will result in—

19 “(i) a reduction of at least 0.3 quads
20 of site energy over 30 years; or

21 “(ii) at least a 10 percent reduction in
22 energy or water use of the covered product.

23 “(D) CRITERIA RELATED TO PERFORM-
24 ANCE.—The Secretary may not determine that
25 imposition of an energy conservation standard

1 is economically justified unless the Secretary
2 determines that imposition of such energy con-
3 servation standard will not result in any less-
4 ening of the utility or the performance of the
5 applicable covered product, taking into consid-
6 eration the effects of such energy conservation
7 standard on—

8 “(i) the compatibility of the covered
9 product with existing systems;

10 “(ii) the life span of the covered prod-
11 uct;

12 “(iii) the operating conditions of the
13 covered product;

14 “(iv) the duty cycle, charging time,
15 and run time of the covered product, as
16 applicable;

17 “(v) the maintenance requirements of
18 the covered product; and

19 “(vi) the replacement and disposal re-
20 quirements for the covered product.

21 “(E) TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION.—The
22 Secretary may not determine that imposition of
23 an energy conservation standard is economically
24 justified unless the Secretary determines that
25 imposition of such energy conservation standard

1 is not likely to result in the unavailability in the
2 United States of a type (or class) of products
3 based on what type of fuel the product con-
4 sumes.

5 “(F) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In determining
7 whether imposition of an energy conserva-
8 tion standard is economically justified, the
9 Secretary—

10 “(I) shall prioritize the interests
11 of consumers;

12 “(II) may not consider estimates
13 of the social costs or social benefits
14 associated with incremental green-
15 house gas emissions; and

16 “(III) shall consider—

17 “(aa) the economic impact,
18 including any regulatory burden,
19 of the standard on the manufac-
20 turers and on the consumers of
21 the products subject to such
22 standard;

23 “(bb) the savings in oper-
24 ating costs, including consumer
25 fuel costs, throughout the esti-

1 mated average life of the covered
2 product in the type (or class)
3 compared to any increase in the
4 price of, or in the initial charges
5 for, or maintenance expenses of,
6 the covered products which are
7 likely to result from the imposi-
8 tion of the standard;

9 “(cc) the total projected
10 amount of energy, or, as applica-
11 ble, water, savings likely to result
12 directly from the imposition of
13 the standard;

14 “(dd) the need for national
15 energy and water conservation;

16 “(ee) the impact of any less-
17 ening of market competition, as
18 determined in writing by the At-
19 torney General under clause (ii),
20 that is likely to result from the
21 imposition of the standard;

22 “(ff) whether the imposition
23 of the energy conservation stand-
24 ard is likely to result price dis-
25 crimination; and

1 “(gg) other factors the Sec-
2 retary considers relevant.

3 “(ii) ATTORNEY GENERAL DETER-
4 MINATION.—For purposes of clause
5 (i)(III)(ee), the Attorney General shall
6 make a determination of the impact, if
7 any, of any lessening of market competi-
8 tion likely to result from such standard
9 and shall transmit such determination, not
10 later than 60 days after the publication of
11 a proposed rule prescribing or amending
12 an energy conservation standard, in writ-
13 ing to the Secretary, together with an
14 analysis of the nature and extent of such
15 impact. Any such determination and anal-
16 ysis shall be published by the Secretary in
17 the Federal Register.

18 “(G) REGULATORY REVIEW.—

19 “(i) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years
20 after the issuance of any final rule prescribing
21 a new or amended energy conservation standard
22 under this section for any type (or class) of cov-
23 ered product, the Secretary shall evaluate the
24 rule to determine whether such energy con-
25 servation standard is technologically feasible

1 and economically justified and whether the reg-
2 ulatory impact analysis for such rule remains
3 accurate.

4 “(ii) EFFECT.—Notwithstanding any other
5 provision of this part, if the Secretary deter-
6 mines, based on an evaluation under clause (i),
7 that an energy conservation standard is not
8 technologically feasible or economically justi-
9 fied—

10 “(I) the Secretary shall publish such
11 determination and such energy conserva-
12 tion standard shall have no force or effect
13 (except that such energy conservation
14 standard shall be considered to be in effect
15 for purposes of section 327); and

16 “(II) the Secretary may publish a
17 final rule amending the energy conserva-
18 tion standard for the type (or class) of cov-
19 ered product to be technologically feasible
20 and economically justified in accordance
21 with this subsection, which amendment
22 shall apply to such a product that is manu-
23 factured after the date that is 3 years
24 after publication of such final rule.”.

1 (d) APPLICABILITY OF REGIONAL STANDARDS.—Sec-
2 tion 325(o)(6)(E)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conserva-
3 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(o)(6)(E)(ii)) is amended by
4 striking “shall apply to any such product installed on or
5 after the effective date of the standard in States in which
6 the Secretary has designated the standard to apply” and
7 inserting “shall apply, in States in which the Secretary
8 has designated the standard to apply, to any such product
9 that is manufactured or imported into the United States
10 on or after the effective date of the standard”.

11 (e) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

12 (1) DEFINITIONS.—

13 (A) CONSUMER PRODUCT.—Section
14 321(1)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conserva-
15 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(1)(A)) is amended by
16 striking “, with respect to showerheads, faucets,
17 water closets, and urinals, water” and inserting
18 “water, as applicable”.

19 (B) ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARD.—
20 Section 321(6)(A) of the Energy Policy and
21 Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(6)(A)) is
22 amended by striking “, or, in the case of
23 showerheads, faucets, water closets, and uri-
24 nals, water use,” and inserting “or water use,
25 as applicable”.

1 (C) ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING
2 COST.—Section 321(7) of the Energy Policy
3 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(7)) is
4 amended by striking “in the case of
5 showerheads, faucets, water closets, and uri-
6 nals” and inserting “, as applicable”.

7 (2) TEST PROCEDURES.—

8 (A) DESIGN OF TEST PROCEDURES.—Sec-
9 tion 323(b)(3) of the Energy Policy and Con-
10 servation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) is amend-
11 ed by striking “energy efficiency, energy use,
12 water use (in the case of showerheads, faucets,
13 water closets and urinals)” and inserting “, as
14 applicable, energy efficiency, energy use, water
15 use”.

16 (B) CALCULATION OF COSTS.—Section
17 323(b)(4) of the Energy Policy and Conserva-
18 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(4)) is amended
19 by—

20 (i) by striking “or, in the case of
21 showerheads, faucets, water closets, or uri-
22 nals,” and inserting “or, as applicable,”;
23 and

1 (ii) by striking “or in the case of
2 showerheads, faucets, water closets, or uri-
3 nals,” and inserting “or, as applicable,”.

4 (C) RESTRICTION ON CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS.—Section 323(c) of the Energy Policy
5 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(c) is
6 amended—
7

8 (i) in paragraph (1), by striking “ or,
9 in the case of showerheads, faucets, water
10 closets, and urinals,” and inserting “or, as
11 applicable,”; and

12 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “ or,
13 in the case of showerheads, faucets, water
14 closets, and urinals,” and inserting “or, as
15 applicable,”.

16 (3) CRITERIA FOR PRESCRIBING NEW OR
17 AMENDED STANDARDS.—Section 325(o)(1) of the
18 Energy Policy and Conservation Act is amended by
19 striking “, or, in the case of showerheads, faucets,
20 water closets, or urinals,” and inserting “, or, as ap-
21 plicable,”.

22 (4) REGIONAL STANDARDS.—Section
23 325(o)(6)(D)(i)(II) of the Energy Policy and Con-
24 servation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(o)(6)(D)(i)(II)) is

1 amended by striking “this paragraph” and inserting
2 “this subsection”.

3 (5) PROCEDURE FOR PRESCRIBING NEW OR
4 AMENDED STANDARDS.—Section 325(p)(2)(A) of the
5 Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C.
6 6295(p)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “taking into
7 account those factors which the Secretary must con-
8 sider under subsection (o)(2)” and inserting “as de-
9 termined in accordance with subsection (o)”.

10 (6) INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section
11 326(d)(1) of the Energy Policy and Conservation
12 Act is amended by striking “or, in the case of
13 showerheads, faucets, water closets, and urinals,”
14 and inserting “or, as applicable,”.

15 (7) ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR
16 HIGH-INTENSITY DISCHARGE LAMPS, DISTRIBUTION
17 TRANSFORMERS, AND SMALL ELECTRIC MOTORS.—
18 Section 346 of the Energy Policy and Conservation
19 Act (42 U.S.C. 6317) is amended by striking sub-
20 section (c).

21 **SEC. 3. DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS.**

22 Section 346 of the Energy Policy and Conservation
23 Act (42 U.S.C. 6317) is amended by adding at the end
24 the following:

1 “(g) NO NEW OR REVISED STANDARDS FOR DIS-
2 TRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of
4 enactment of this subsection, the Secretary may not
5 prescribe any new or amended energy conservation
6 standard under part B or this part for distribution
7 transformers, including those distribution trans-
8 formers for which the Secretary prescribed testing
9 requirements under subsection (a)(1) and low-volt-
10 age dry-type distribution transformers.

11 “(2) EFFECT ON EXISTING STANDARDS.—Para-
12 graph (1) does not affect any energy conservation
13 standards prescribed under part B or this part be-
14 fore the date of enactment of this subsection.”.

15 **SEC. 4. DISHWASHERS; CLOTHES WASHERS.**

16 Section 325(g) of the Energy Policy and Conserva-
17 tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (9)(B), by adding at the end
19 the following:

20 “(iii) OTHER AMENDMENTS TO
21 STANDARDS.—The Secretary may prescribe
22 a new or amended energy conservation
23 standard for clothes washers in accordance
24 with this section, including—

25 “(I) a design requirement; and

1 “(II) a performance standard
2 which prescribes one of the following:

3 “(aa) A minimum level of
4 energy efficiency.

5 “(bb) A maximum quantity
6 of energy use.

7 “(cc) A minimum level of
8 water efficiency.

9 “(dd) A maximum quantity
10 of water use.

11 “(ee) A minimum level of
12 energy efficiency and a minimum
13 level of water efficiency.

14 “(ff) A maximum quantity
15 of energy use and a maximum
16 quantity of water use.”; and

17 (2) in paragraph (10)(B), by adding at the end
18 the following:

19 “(iii) OTHER AMENDMENTS TO
20 STANDARDS.—The Secretary may prescribe
21 a new or amended energy conservation
22 standard for dishwashers in accordance
23 with this section, including—

24 “(I) a design requirement; and

1 “(II) a performance standard
2 which prescribes one of the following:

3 “(aa) A minimum level of
4 energy efficiency.

5 “(bb) A maximum quantity
6 of energy use.

7 “(cc) A minimum level of
8 water efficiency.

9 “(dd) A maximum quantity
10 of water use.

11 “(ee) A minimum level of
12 energy efficiency and a minimum
13 level of water efficiency.

14 “(ff) A maximum quantity
15 of energy use and a maximum
16 quantity of water use.”.