

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1582

To address the application of the national primary ambient air quality standard for ozone with respect to extreme nonattainment areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 15, 2011

Mr. MCCARTHY of California (for himself, Mr. NUNES, Mr. DENHAM, and Mr. ISSA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To address the application of the national primary ambient air quality standard for ozone with respect to extreme nonattainment areas, 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 “Commonsense Ozone
5 Regulation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSIVE APPLICATION OF 8-HOUR NAAQS TO**
2 **COVERED EXTREME OZONE NONATTAINMENT**
3 **AREAS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 172(e) of
5 the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7502(e)), any covered ex-
6 treme ozone nonattainment area shall not be subject to
7 any control (as defined in section 4(2)) pursuant to the
8 1-hour national primary ambient air quality standard for
9 ozone.

10 (b) RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a)
11 applies as of the effective date of the classification of the
12 area involved as extreme pursuant to the 8-hour national
13 primary ambient air quality standard for ozone promul-
14 gated on July 18, 1997 (62 Fed. Reg. 38856).

15 **SEC. 3. POSTPONEMENT OF FUTURE OZONE STANDARDS**
16 **FOR COVERED EXTREME OZONE NONATTAIN-**
17 **MENT AREAS.**

18 (a) POSTPONEMENT OF STANDARD.—With respect to
19 any covered extreme ozone nonattainment area—

20 (1) the Administrator may take such steps as
21 are necessary to classify the area pursuant to any
22 rule setting the level of the 8-hour national primary
23 ambient air quality standard for ozone below 0.08
24 parts per million; and

25 (2) until the date that is 6 months after a re-
26 port on the feasibility of compliance in the area with

1 the rule described in paragraph (1) is submitted to
2 the Congress and the Administrator under sub-
3 section (b)(4)—

4 (A) the rule described in paragraph (1)
5 shall not otherwise apply; and

6 (B) the 8-hour national primary ambient
7 air quality standard for ozone in effect as of
8 January 1, 2011, shall continue to apply.

9 (b) LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—

10 (1) ESTABLISHMENT AND APPLICABILITY.—

11 Subsection (a) applies with respect to a covered ex-
12 treme ozone nonattainment area only if the gov-
13 erning board of the responsible local air agency
14 agrees to establish, in accordance with this sub-
15 section, a local advisory committee to study the fea-
16 sibility of compliance in such area with a rule de-
17 scribed in subsection (a)(1).

18 (2) MEMBERS.—Each local advisory committee
19 under this subsection shall be composed of the fol-
20 lowing members, to be appointed by the governing
21 board of the responsible local air agency:

22 (A) A representative of the governing
23 board of the responsible local air agency.

24 (B) A local representative of the energy in-
25 dustry.

1 (C) A local representative of the agri-
2 culture industry.

3 (D) A local representative of the manufac-
4 turing and processing industry.

5 (E) A local representative of the transpor-
6 tation industry.

7 (F) A local representative of local govern-
8 ment.

9 (G) A local representative of the health
10 care industry.

11 (H) A local environmental justice rep-
12 resentative.

13 (3) STUDY.—

14 (A) FEASIBILITY OF COMPLIANCE WITH
15 RULE.—Each local advisory committee under
16 this subsection shall conduct a study on the
17 feasibility of compliance in the applicable cov-
18 ered extreme ozone nonattainment area with a
19 rule described in subsection (a)(1), taking into
20 account—

21 (i) topography of the area;

22 (ii) weather in the area;

23 (iii) foreign sources of pollution (both
24 stationary and mobile) that cause ozone
25 formation in the area;

1 (iv) pass-through traffic and its im-
2 pact on ozone formation in the area;

3 (v) exceptional events in the area;

4 (vi) current and future technologies
5 needed to bring the area into compliance
6 with the rule; and

7 (vii) natural ozone background levels
8 in the area.

9 (B) COSTS OF COMPLIANCE WITH RULE.—

10 Each study described in subparagraph (A) shall
11 address the potential adverse employment im-
12 pacts of, and the costs of compliance with, a
13 rule described in subsection (a)(1) for local
14 businesses, agriculture operations, and residents
15 in the applicable covered extreme ozone non-
16 attainment area.

17 (4) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after a
18 rule described in subsection (a)(1) is promulgated as
19 final—

20 (A) each local advisory committee under
21 this subsection shall submit to the governing
22 board of the responsible local air agency a re-
23 port on the results of the study by the com-
24 mittee under paragraph (3), including any find-

1 ings and recommendations of the committee;
2 and

3 (B) such governing board shall imme-
4 diately submit such report, without change, to
5 the Congress and the Administrator.

6 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
9 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
10 mental Protection Agency.

11 (2) CONTROL.—The term “control” has the
12 meaning given to such term for purposes of section
13 172(e) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7502(e)) and
14 includes any fee or penalty under section 185 of
15 such Act (42 U.S.C. 7511d).

16 (3) COVERED EXTREME OZONE NONATTAIN-
17 MENT AREA.—The term “covered extreme ozone
18 nonattainment area” means a nonattainment area
19 for ozone classified as extreme as of January 1,
20 2011, pursuant to the 8-hour national primary am-
21 bient air quality standard for ozone promulgated on
22 July 18, 1997 (62 Fed. Reg. 38856).

23 (4) EXCEPTIONAL EVENT.—The term “excep-
24 tional event” has the meaning given such term in

1 section 319(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.
2 7619(b)).

3 (5) RESPONSIBLE LOCAL AIR AGENCY.—The
4 term “responsible local air agency” means the local
5 air district or other local government agency or au-
6 thority with responsibility for enforcing requirements
7 relating to the prevention and regulation of air pol-
8 lution for the area involved.

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