

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3169

To support basic energy research and eliminate the wind production tax credit.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 12, 2016

Mr. ALEXANDER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To support basic energy research and eliminate the wind production tax credit.

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. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) wind energy is a mature technology;

6 (2) the wind production tax credit has been in
7 effect for 24 years and has been extended 10 times;

8 (3) wind subsidies can distort the electricity
9 market and make other sources of electric power less
10 cost competitive;

1 (4) between 2008 and 2014, the wind produc-
2 tion tax credit cost taxpayers \$7,300,000,000;

3 (5) for wind turbine construction started in
4 2017, 2018, and 2019, the wind production tax
5 credit would cost taxpayers \$8,100,000,000 over 10
6 years; and

7 (6) doubling the amount of funds available for
8 basic energy research activities would—

9 (A) increase innovation in energy tech-
10 nologies; and

11 (B) produce clean, reliable, and affordable
12 energy.

13 **SEC. 2. INCREASED FUNDING AUTHORIZATION FOR THE**
14 **OFFICE OF SCIENCE OF THE DEPARTMENT**
15 **OF ENERGY.**

16 Section 971(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
17 U.S.C. 16311(b)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the
19 end;

20 (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at
21 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

22 (3) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(8) \$8,524,000,000 for fiscal year 2017;

24 “(9) \$8,936,000,000 for fiscal year 2018; and

25 “(10) \$9,377,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.”.

1 **SEC. 3. TERMINATION OF CREDIT FOR ELECTRICITY PRO-**
2 **DUCED FROM WIND.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Paragraph (1) of section 45(d) of
4 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
5 “2020” and inserting “2017”.

6 (b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

7 (1) Subsection (b) of section 45 of the Internal
8 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking para-
9 graph (5).

10 (2) Clause (ii) of section 48(a)(5)(C) of such
11 Code is amended by striking “(January 1, 2020, in
12 the case of any facility which is described in para-
13 graph (1) of section 45(d))”.

14 (3) Paragraph (5) of section 48(a) of such Code
15 is amended by striking subparagraph (E).

16 (c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

17 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in para-
18 graph (2), the amendments made by this section
19 shall apply to electricity produced and sold in tax-
20 able years beginning after the date of the enactment
21 of this Act.

22 (2) **TREATMENT AS ENERGY PROPERTY.**—The
23 amendments made by paragraphs (2) and (3) of
24 subsection (b) shall apply to property placed in serv-

1 ice in taxable years beginning after the date of the
2 enactment of this Act.

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