

Amendment no.3068 / Updating of insular area renewable energy and energy efficiency plans

Senator Daniel K. Akaka Papers

Public relations, Speeches, statements, and messages, Box PR6, Folder 41

<https://hdl.handle.net/10524/78803>

Items in eVols are protected by copyright, with all rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.

UHM Library Digital Collections Disclaimer and Copyright Information

Congressional Record



United States
of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *107th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

United States
Government
Printing Office
SUPERINTENDENT
OF DOCUMENTS
Washington, DC 20402

PERIODICALS
Postage and Fees Paid
U.S. Government Printing Office
(USPS 087-390)

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use, \$300

00411
L CR AKAKA000H RS 0021F 23
HON DANIEL K AKAKA
SENATE OFFICE BLDG
WASHINGTON DC 20510

sources. Existing renewable energy facilities will shut down, and new ones will be built next door. That is a poor use of resources. It will cost more money and raise electricity prices. Wouldn't it be better if States could form partnerships with each other to develop renewable energy resources in the most cost efficient manner possible? Surely we should allow States which don't have a lot of existing renewable resources to save money by buying inexpensive, existing credits from other States.

I am offering this amendment that would provide at least partial recognition of those hard working Americans who have built our existing renewable energy resources. I would like to see all existing renewable energy resources included in this standard. However, my amendment does not go that far in an attempt to accommodate Senator BINGAMAN.

My amendment merely says that increased output at existing renewable energy facilities should be counted. If an existing renewable energy facility were to increase its renewable energy output by 50%, then under my amendment that facility would receive credit for that 50% increase. Thus, consistent with the interest of Senator BINGAMAN's proposal, my amendment only gives credit to new renewable energy production.

Those who have developed America's existing renewable energy resources should have their efforts recognized. At a minimum, I hope my colleagues will at least join me in giving these hard working Americans who have led the way on renewables partial credit. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

To reiterate, my amendment merely says that increased output at an existing renewable energy facility should be counted under this bill. If an existing renewable energy facility were to increase its renewable energy output by 50 percent, then under my amendment that facility would receive credit for that 50-percent increase. Thus, I believe it is consistent with the intent of Senator BINGAMAN's proposal in that it gives credit to expand renewable energy production.

I ask for consideration of the amendment, and I thank both Senator BINGAMAN and Senator MURKOWSKI for their assistance in this matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, the amendment is acceptable on this side.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. It is cleared on this side, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If all time is yielded back, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3058. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3058) was agreed to.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3016, AS AMENDED

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I believe the next item under the unanimous consent agreement is a vote on the Bingaman amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3016, as amended. Without objection, the amendment, as amended, is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3016), as amended, was agreed to.

VITIATION OF ACTION—AMENDMENT NO. 2996

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, last week the Senate adopted an amendment by Senators MURKOWSKI and DASCHLE relating to rural and remote community grants. There were a number of inadvertent errors in the amendment as adopted. Accordingly, I ask unanimous consent that the adoption of amendment No. 2996 be vitiated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 3059 THROUGH 3069 EN BLOC
TO AMENDMENT NO. 2917

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, you have at the desk 11 amendments. I ask for their immediate consideration en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN], for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI, proposes amendments en bloc numbered 3059 through 3069 to Amendment No. 2917.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendments be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments (Nos. 3059 through 3069) are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3059

(Purpose: To authorize rural and remote community electrification grants)

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

AMENDMENT NO. 3060

(Purpose: To strike section 264)

On page 65, strike line 18 and all that follows through page 67, line 4.

AMENDMENT NO. 3061

(Purpose: To permit the Department of Energy to transfer uranium-bearing materials to uranium mills for recycling)

On page 121, line 24, strike "and" and all that follows through page 122, line 2 and insert:

"(5) to any person for national security purposes, as determined by the Secretary; and

"(6) to a uranium mill licensed by the Commission for the purpose of recycling uranium-bearing material."

AMENDMENT NO. 3062

(Purpose: To define the term 'traffic signal module')

On page 289, after line 4, insert the following:

"(41) The term 'traffic signal module' means a standard 8-inch (200mm) or 12-inch

(300mm) traffic signal indication, consisting of a light source, a lens, and all other parts necessary for operation, that communicates movement messages to drivers through red, amber, and green colors."

AMENDMENT NO. 3063

(Purpose: To provide test procedures for traffic lights)

On page 289, after line 21, insert the following:

"(11) Test procedures for traffic signal modules shall be based on the test method used under the Energy Star program of the Environmental Protection Agency for traffic signal modules, as in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph."

AMENDMENT NO. 3064

(Purpose: To establish an efficiency standard for traffic lights)

On page 301, after line 5, insert the following:

"(2) TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODULES.—Traffic signal modules manufactured on or after January 1, 2006 shall meet the performance requirements used under the Energy Star program of the Environmental Protection Agency for traffic signals, as in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph, and shall be installed with compatible, electrically-connected signal control interface devices and conflict monitoring systems."

AMENDMENT NO. 3065

(Purpose: To clarify those entities eligible to participate in the Renewable Energy Production Incentive program)

On page 60, line 20-23, strike "an electricity-generating cooperative exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(12) or section 1381(a)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986" and inserting "a nonprofit electrical cooperative".

AMENDMENT NO. 3066

(Purpose: To insert provisions relating to electric energy)

On page 407, line 4, after "including", insert "flexible alternating current transmission systems."

AMENDMENT NO. 3067

(Purpose: To include geothermal heat pump efficiency among the technologies to be reviewed under section 1701 of the bill)

On page 568, line 20, insert "geothermal heat pump technology," before "and energy recovery".

AMENDMENT NO. 3068

(Purpose: To provide for the updating of insular area renewable energy and energy efficiency plans)

On page 574, following line 11, insert the following:

SEC. 1704. UPDATING OF INSULAR AREA RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLANS.

Section 604 of Public Law 96-597 (48 U.S.C. 1492) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) at the end of paragraph (4) by striking "resources" and inserting "resources" and

"(5) the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies since publication of the 1982 Territorial Energy Assessment prepared under subsection (c) reveals the need to reassess the state of energy production, consumption, efficiency, infrastructure, reliance on imported energy, and potential of the indigenous renewable energy resources and energy efficiency in regard to the insular areas."; and

(2) by adding at the end of subsection (e) "The Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the chief executive officer of each insular area,

shall update the plans required under subsection (c) and draft long-term energy plans for each insular area that will reduce, to the extent feasible, the reliance of the insular area on energy imports by the year 2010, and maximize, to the extent feasible, use of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency opportunities. Not later than December 31, 2002, the Secretary of Energy shall submit the updated plans to Congress."

AMENDMENT NO. 3069

(Purpose: To provide for access to the Alaska natural gas transportation project and other purposes)

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

AMENDMENT NO. 3069

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, amendment No. 3069 incorporates all of the changes Senator BINGAMAN and I have worked out with the State of Alaska, the Alaska Legislature, the pipeline companies, the North Slope oil and gas producers, and northern Alaska petroleum explorers.

One might imagine with the diversity of interests represented by this group of participants, there was not always unanimous agreement on each point.

But at the end of the day, I believe what is contained in this substitute amendment is a fair compromise between often divergent points of view.

I want to thank Senator BINGAMAN and his staff for all of the hard work they invested in working with me to craft this challenging amendment.

Although Alaska North Slope gas has been available for over 30 years, development and commercialization has not been possible due to lack of local market and lack of transportation to commercial markets.

The cost and risk associated with building a project of the magnitude we are speaking was just too daunting.

All of you are aware of last year's efforts on the part of Exxon/Mobil, Phillips, and British Petroleum to evaluate the commercial viability of transporting Alaska gas to markets in the lower 48.

At the completion of their economic evaluation they determined that the project was "not" economically viable at this time.

This negative economic determination set the stage for Congress's involvement in the Alaska gas debate.

A way needed to be found to reduce both the cost and the risk associated with the construction of this \$20 billion project.

As you may know Senator DASCHLE and BINGAMAN introduced their energy bill last December—language was contained in that bill to assist in constructing the Alaska Gas Transportation Project.

While that language was a good start, it did not address all of the problems that needed to be resolved in order to achieve the goal of cost and risk reduction.

It also failed to address issues of significant concern to the people of Alaska.

For the past several months Senator BINGAMAN and I have been engaged in

discussions with all the interested parties in an attempt to come up with language that would remove as many barriers as possible standing in the way of constructing this project.

The amendment that Senator BINGAMAN and I are offering today accomplishes this goal.

I believe both the interest of Alaska and the nation are well served by the language we have crafted.

It protects Alaska's interests by: prohibiting the "Over-the-Top" route thus keeping construction and operational jobs in Alaska "and" along with providing Alaskans with the opportunity to heat their homes and develop a gas based industry in our State; making it clear that Alaskans have full regulatory authority over gas coming off the mainline in our State; providing the opportunity for newly discovered Alaska gas to find its way to markets in the south; making special provisions for the transport of Alaska royalty gas to markets in Alaska; and setting up a \$20 million dollar program to train Alaskans in the skills they will need to compete successfully for the high paying jobs created by the construction and operation of the Alaska Gas Transportation System.

The national interest is protected by significantly reducing the risk associated with construction of a system that will provide the nation with a secure, abundant, and domestically produced supply of gas that will last well into the middle of the century.

The national interest is served by: providing gasoline builders with two separate and updated authorities to permit the project; providing expedited judicial review of legal challenges that might otherwise slow down the project; and creating a project coordinator to make sure that the scores of State and Federal agencies permitting the project are working together and not creating artificial bureaucratic barriers that will slow or halt the construction process.

I firmly believe that the language contained in this amendment will go a long way towards reducing both the cost and the risk associated with the construction of the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System.

A system that will serve the special interests of Alaska and the Nation for decades to come.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, these 11 amendments have been cleared on both sides. I urge their adoption en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the amendments en bloc.

The amendments (Nos. 3059 through 3069), en bloc, were agreed to.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I also move to reconsider the vote on the adoption of amendment No. 3016.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3023

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I have two other amendments that are at the desk at this moment. Amendment No. 3023, which is an amendment by Senator LINCOLN related to the biodiesel credit, is cleared, and I urge that we go ahead and proceed with it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3023.

The amendment (No. 3023) was agreed to.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3041

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that amendment No. 3041 be voted on.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3041.

The amendment (No. 3041) was agreed to.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, that completes the items we intended to complete today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I yield to the Senator from Florida for how much time?

Mr. GRAHAM. Two minutes.

Mr. BYRD. For not to exceed 2 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator from Florida.

AMENDMENT NO. 3070 TO AMENDMENT NO. 2917

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I wish to offer an amendment and ask that it be laid aside for consideration after we return.

This amendment will add to the list of items which are acceptable as renewable energy municipal solid waste. When we return, I will make a more extended statement. In a State such as mine, the options for dealing with solid waste are essentially two: One is to bury it in a landfill; two is to incinerate it. Of those two, clearly, the incineration is a more benign impact on our environment. Given the high water table we have, land disposal of the solid waste creates serious issues of water quality. In my opinion, we should allow, as we have allowed this afternoon through the amendment of Senator CRAIG, expanded use of biomass, and now Senator COLLINS extended use of hydropower, we should recognize the fact that both in terms of environment and energy, allowing solid waste to energy to be one of the allowable renewable energy sources is in the national interest.