

TITLE II - ENERGY EFFICIENCY Summary

Energy Efficient Buildings, Lighting and Other Products

ACES establishes new “green building” codes that achieve 30% and 50% greater efficiency levels in 2010 and 2016, respectively. The Department of Energy must enforce such standards in states where such standards have not been incorporated into the building codes. States will be offered allowances to be used to adopt and enforce the green standards. ACES also requires new energy efficiency standards for light products, such as street lights and typical household lamps, as well as commercial-grade natural gas furnaces, and industrial plants. The Department of Energy must provide rewards to retailers for the “best-in-class” marketing of high-efficiency appliances, and must provide additional rewards when best-in-class sales include the return and recycling of inefficient appliances. The ACES bill also contains measures to promote efficiency by the federal government and other public institutions.

Transportation Efficiency

The EPA must establish greenhouse gas emissions standards for new heavy-duty vehicles and engines and for non-road vehicles and engines, including new marine vessels and locomotives, aircraft, and aircraft engines.

Energy Savings Performance Contracts

The ACES bill requires establishment of new competition requirements for specific task or delivery orders of energy savings performance contracts.

This section by section summary was created with the use of the House Energy & Commerce Committee's staff section-by-section summary.

TITLE II - ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Section-by-Section Summary

Subtitle A – Building Energy Efficiency Programs

Sec 201, Greater Energy Efficiency in Building Codes

This section amends the Energy Conservation and Production Act to require the Secretary of Energy to support consensus code-setting organizations to establish building codes achieving 30% and 50% higher energy efficiency targets in 2010 and 2016, respectively, to establish codes directly if such organizations fail to do so, to include cool roofs standards, and to support state and local adoption of such advanced codes by supporting training and funding for energy efficiency code enforcement.

Section 202, Building Retrofit Program

This section establishes a program under which the Administrator of EPA, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, supports development of standards and processes for retrofitting existing residential and nonresidential buildings. This section also authorizes the Secretary of Energy to provide funding to states to conduct cost-effective building retrofits, using local governments, other agencies or entities to carry out the work, through flexible forms of financial assistance up to 50% of the costs of retrofits, with funding increasing in proportion to efficiency achievement. This section also supports retrofits of historic buildings.

Sect 203, Energy Efficient Manufactured Homes

This section establishes a program to provide federal rebates of up to \$7,500 toward purchases of new Energy Star-rated manufactured homes for low-income families residing in pre-1976 manufactured homes.

Sec 204, Building Energy Performance Labeling Program

This section establishes an EPA program to develop procedures to label buildings for their energy performance characteristics, using building type and consumption data to be developed by the Energy Information Administration. The program would be implemented by states in a manner suited to increasing public knowledge of building energy performance without hindering real estate transactions.

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Subtitle B – Lighting and Appliance Energy Efficiency Programs

Sec 211, Lighting Efficiency Standards

This section amends the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to adopt negotiated agreements on technical standards for lighting, including outdoor lighting – street lights, parking lot lights, and parking structure lights – and portable light fixtures such as typical household and commercial plug-in lamps.

Sec 212, Other Appliance Efficiency Standards

This section amends the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to adopt consensus agreements on technical standards for hot food holding cabinets, bottle-type drinking water dispensers, portable spas (hot tubs), and commercial-grade natural gas furnaces.

Sec 213, Appliance Efficiency Determinations and Procedures

This section amends the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve the Department of Energy process for setting energy-efficiency standards by enabling adoption of consensus testing procedures; requiring the adoption of a new television standard; improving standard-setting cost-effectiveness formula; authorizing the Secretary to obtain product-specific information as needed; authorizing state injunctive enforcement of standards violations; changing the role of appliance efficiency in building codes; and including greenhouse gas emissions, smart grid capability, and availability of more-efficient models among factors affecting efficiency standard ratings.

Sec 214, Best-in-Class Appliances Deployment Program

This section creates a Department of Energy program to provide rewards to retailers for successful marketing of high-efficiency appliances, designating top performers as “best-in-class,” and providing bonuses based on efficiency improvement compared to average product. Provides additional rewards to retailers when best-in-class sale includes return and recycling of inefficient appliances. This section creates a program to reward manufacturers of new high-efficiency best-in-class models representing significant incremental energy efficiency gain.

Sec 215, Purpose of Energy Star

This section provides “Purpose” section for Energy Star provisions clarifying that Energy Star products must be cost-effective, recovering incremental purchase price in expected energy savings during a 3-5 year period.

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Subtitle C – Transportation Efficiency

Section 221, Emissions Standards

This section requires and sets deadlines for EPA to establish greenhouse gas emissions standards for new heavy-duty vehicles and engines and for nonroad vehicles and engines, including new marine vessels and locomotives, aircraft, and aircraft engines. Such standards will be established using existing authorities.

Sec 222, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions through Transportation Efficiency

This section amends Title VIII of the Clean Air Act to require states to establish goals for greenhouse gas reductions from the transportation sector and requires the submission of transportation plans to meet those goals by Metropolitan Planning Organizations for areas with populations exceeding 200,000 people. This section imposes sanctions on states that fail to submit goals or plans. This section authorizes a competitive grant program for development and implementation of plans.

Sec 223, SmartWay Transportation Efficiency Programs

This section amends Title VIII of the Clean Air Act to expand an existing EPA loan and fuel saving technology deployment program, the SmartWay Transport Partnership, to help American truckers upgrade to more fuel efficient and less polluting vehicles.

Sec 224, State Vehicle Fleets

This section requires the Secretary of Energy to update state fleet rules to be consistent with current law

Subtitle D – Industrial Energy Efficiency Programs

Sec 241, Industrial Plant Energy Efficiency Standards

This section requires the Secretary of Energy to establish standards for industrial energy efficiency and to seek recognition of result by American National Standards Institute.

Sec 242, Electric and Thermal Energy Efficiency Award Programs

This section creates an award program for innovation in increasing the efficiency of thermal electric generation processes, including encouragement for utilities to capture and separately market excess thermal energy.

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Sec 243, Clarifying Election of Waste Heat Recovery Financial Incentives

This section clarifies Section 451 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to ensure that those who recover waste energy can elect to receive the incentive grants provided in that section, or tax credits provided for combined heat and power, but not both.

Subtitle E – Improvements in Energy Savings Performance Contracting

Sec 251, Energy Savings Performance Contracts

This section amends the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to establish competition requirements for specific energy savings performance contract task orders.

Subtitle F –

Subtitle G – Public Institutions

Sec 261, Public Institutions

This section amends the Energy Independence and Security Act to include non-profit hospitals and public health facilities among public institutions eligible for grants and loans and clarifies loan and cost-share conditions.

Sec 262, Community Energy Efficiency Flexibility

This section amends the Energy Independence and Security Act to remove limits on funds received by communities through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program that can be used to fund revolving loan accounts or through sub-grants for purposes of the program.

Sec 263, Small Community Joint Participation

This section amends the Energy Independence and Security Act to allow small communities to join with other neighboring small communities in a joint program of sufficient size to be defined as an eligible local government recipient under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program.

Sec 264, Low-Income Community Energy Efficiency Program

This section authorizes grants to community development organizations to provide financing to improve energy efficiency, develop alternative, renewable, and distributed energy supplies, promote opportunities for low-income residents, and increase energy conservation in low income rural and urban communities.