

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

MAY 5, 2009

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Energy to provide for the establishment of accreditation standards relating to biofuel engineering, and to provide support for undergraduate and graduate degree programs that create the engineering skills necessary to support biofuel production.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TEAGUE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to provide for the establishment of accreditation standards relating to biofuel engineering, and to provide support for undergraduate and graduate degree programs that create the engineering skills necessary to support biofuel production.

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 “Biofuel Engineering
5 Training Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION.**

2 In this Act, the term “biofuel engineering” means the
3 discipline concerned with utilization of harvested living
4 plant material to produce fuels.

5 **SEC. 3. STUDY AND DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS.**

6 The Secretary of Energy shall make a grant to an
7 appropriate standard-setting or other entity to conduct a
8 study of, and develop appropriate standards for, accredita-
9 tion of undergraduate and graduate biofuel engineering
10 programs at institutions of higher education, and to study
11 and the needs of the biofuel industry for engineering sup-
12 port. Such study shall include—

13 (1) a determination of subspecialty require-
14 ments for engineers who will concentrate on creating
15 other products in addition to fuel, including animal
16 feed and other consumer products;

17 (2) consideration of the interaction of biological
18 feedstock with the structural material in the produc-
19 tion and distribution systems, the carbon footprint
20 of the production and distribution of biofuels, and
21 related genetic hazards; and

22 (3) supplemental courses of study that could be
23 used by experienced engineers for transition into the
24 new biofuel engineering discipline.

1 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL FUNDING OF BIOFUEL ENGINEERING**
2 **EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.**

3 (a) **TRAINEESHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS.**—The Sec-
4 retary of Energy may provide funding to individuals for
5 traineeships and fellowships in accredited biofuel engineer-
6 ing programs.

7 (b) **LOCAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH.**—The Sec-
8 retary of Energy may provide to institutions of higher edu-
9 cation funding to support the development of local training
10 and research facilities.

11 (c) **FEDERAL FACILITIES.**—Agencies of the Federal
12 Government, including national laboratories, shall make
13 research facilities available to accredited biofuel engineer-
14 ing programs for faculty and students to enhance edu-
15 cation and training opportunities.