

S 2052 IS

111th CONGRESS

1st Session

**S. 2052**

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research and development and demonstration program to reduce manufacturing and construction costs relating to nuclear reactors, and for other purposes.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES****October 29, 2009**

Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

**A BILL**

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research and development and demonstration program to reduce manufacturing and construction costs relating to nuclear reactors, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the `Nuclear Energy Research Initiative Improvement Act of 2009'.

**SEC. 2. NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH INITIATIVE.**

Section 952(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16272(a)) is amended--

(1) by striking `The Secretary' and inserting the following:

`(1) IN GENERAL- The Secretary;'; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

`(2) AUTHORIZED RESEARCH INITIATIVES- In carrying out the program under this subsection, the Secretary shall conduct research to lower the cost of nuclear reactor systems, including research regarding--

`(A) modular and small-scale reactors;

`(B) balance-of-plant issues;

`(C) cost-efficient manufacturing and construction;

`(D) licensing issues; and

`(E) enhanced proliferation controls.

`(3) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT- In carrying out initiatives under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall consult with--

`(A) the Secretary of Commerce;

`(B) the Secretary of the Treasury;

`(C) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

`(D) any other individual who the Secretary determines to be necessary.

`(4) SCHEDULE-

`(A) IN GENERAL- Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall develop and publish on the website of the Department of Energy a schedule that contains an outline of a 5-year strategy to lower effectively the costs of nuclear reactors.

`(B) PUBLIC WORKSHOPS- In developing the schedule under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall conduct public workshops to provide an opportunity for public comment.

`(C) REVIEW- Before the date on which the Secretary publishes the schedule under subparagraph (A), the Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee shall conduct a review of the schedule.

`(D) ANNUAL UPDATES-

`(i) IN GENERAL- Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary publishes the schedule under subparagraph (A) and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall update the schedule.

`(ii) PUBLIC WORKSHOPS- In updating the schedule under clause (i), the Secretary shall conduct public workshops in accordance with subparagraph (B).

`(5) COST SHARING- Section 988 shall apply to initiatives carried out under this section.

`(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS- There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.'.

END