110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To establish a geothermal heat pump technology acceleration program relating to General Services Administration facilities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To establish a geothermal heat pump technology acceleration program relating to General Services Administration facilities.

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

SECTION 1. GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP TECHNOLOGY ACCELERATION PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of General Services.

(2) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FACILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''General Services Administration facility'' means any building, structure, or facility, in whole or in part (including the associated support systems of the building, structure, or facility), that—

(i) is constructed (including facilities constructed for lease), renovated, or purchased, in whole or in part, by the Administrator for use by the Federal Government; or

(ii) is leased, in whole or in part, by the Administrator for use by the Federal Government—

(I) except as provided in subclause (II), for a term of not less than 5 years; or

(II) for a term of less than 5 years, if the Administrator determines that use of cost-effective technologies and practices would result in the payback of expenses.

(B) INCLUSION.—The term ''General Services Administration facility'' includes any group of buildings, structures, or facilities described in subparagraph (A) (including the associated en-

ergy-consuming support systems of the buildings, structures, and facilities).

(C) EXEMPTION.—The Administrator may exempt from the definition of ''General Services Administration facility'' under this paragraph a building, structure, or facility that meets the requirements of section 543(c) of Public Law 95–619 (42 U.S.C. 8253(c)).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish a program to accelerate the use of geothermal heat pumps at General Services Administration facilities.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The program established under this subsection shall—

(A) ensure centralized responsibility for the coordination of geothermal heat pump recommendations, practices, and activities of all relevant Federal agencies;

(B) provide technical assistance and operational guidance to applicable tenants to achieve the goal identified in subsection (c)(2)(B)(ii); and

(C) establish methods to track the success of Federal departments and agencies with respect to that goal.

(c) ACCELERATED USE OF GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP TECHNOLOGIES.—

(1) REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As part of the program under this section, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall conduct a review of—

(i) current use of geothermal heat pump technologies in General Services Administration facilities; and

(ii) the availability to managers of General Services Administration facilities of geothermal heat pumps.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The review under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) examine the use of geothermal heat pumps by Federal agencies in General Services Administration facilities; and

(ii) as prepared in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, identify geothermal heat pump technology standards that could

be used for all types of General Services Administration facilities.

(2) REPLACEMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—As part of the program under this section, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall establish, using available appropriations, a geothermal heat pump technology acceleration program to achieve maximum feasible replacement of existing heating and cooling technologies with geothermal heat pump technologies in each General Services Administration facility.

(B) ACCELERATION PLAN TIMETABLE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—To implement the program established under subparagraph (A), not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall establish a timetable, including milestones for specific activities needed to replace existing heating and cooling technologies with geothermal heat pump technologies, to the maximum extent feasible (including at the maximum rate feasible),

at each General Services Administration facility.

(ii) GOAL.—The goal of the timetable under clause (i) shall be to complete, using available appropriations, maximum feasible replacement of existing heating and cooling technologies with geothermal heat pump technologies by not later than the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FACILITY GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall—

(1) ensure that a manager responsible for accelerating the use of geothermal heat pump technologies is designated for each General Services Administration facility geothermal heat pump technologies and practices facility; and

(2) submit to Congress a plan, to be implemented to the maximum extent feasible (including at the maximum rate feasible) using available appropriations, by not later than the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, that—

(A) includes an estimate of the funds necessary to carry out this section;

(B) describes the status of the implementation of geothermal heat pump technologies and practices at General Services Administration facilities, including—

(i) the extent to which programs, including the program established under subsection (b), are being carried out in accordance with this Act; and

(ii) the status of funding requests and appropriations for those programs;

(C) identifies within the planning, budgeting, and construction processes, all types of General Services Administration facility-related procedures that inhibit new and existing General Services Administration facilities from implementing geothermal heat pump technologies;

(D) recommends language for uniform standards for use by Federal agencies in implementing geothermal heat pump technologies and practices;

(E) in coordination with the Office of Management and Budget, reviews the budget proc-

ess for capital programs with respect to alternatives for—

(i) permitting Federal agencies to retain all identified savings accrued as a result of the use of geothermal heat pump technologies; and

(ii) identifying short- and long-term cost savings that accrue from the use of geothermal heat pump technologies and practices;

(F) achieves substantial operational cost savings through the application of geothermal heat pump technologies; and

(G) includes recommendations to address each of the matters, and a plan for implementation of each recommendation, described in subparagraphs (A) through (F).

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section, to remain available until expended.