

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1335

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a pilot program to award grants for the electrification of certain refrigerated vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a pilot program to award grants for the electrification of certain refrigerated vehicles, and for other purposes.

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 “FREEZER Trucks
5 Act of 2021” or the “Fostering and Realizing Electrifica-
6 tion by Encouraging Zero Emission Refrigeration Trucks
7 Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE ELECTRIFICATION OF**
2 **CERTAIN REFRIGERATED VEHICLES.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The Ad-
4 ministrator shall establish and carry out a pilot program
5 to award funds, in the form of grants, rebates, and low-
6 cost revolving loans, as determined appropriate by the Ad-
7 ministrator, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to
8 carry out projects described in subsection (b).

9 (b) PROJECTS.—An eligible entity receiving an award
10 of funds under subsection (a) may use such funds only
11 for one or more of the following projects:

12 (1) TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION UNIT RE-
13 PLACEMENT.—A project to retrofit a heavy-duty ve-
14 hicle by replacing or retrofitting the existing diesel-
15 powered transport refrigeration unit in such vehicle
16 with an electric transport refrigeration unit and re-
17 tiring the replaced unit for scrappage.

18 (2) SHORE POWER INFRASTRUCTURE.—A
19 project to purchase and install shore power infra-
20 structure or other equipment that enables transport
21 refrigeration units to connect to electric power and
22 operate without using diesel fuel.

23 (c) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS.—The amount of an award
24 of funds under subsection (a) shall not exceed—

25 (1) for the costs of a project described in sub-
26 section (b)(1), 75 percent of such costs; and

1 (2) for the costs of a project described in sub-
2 section (b)(2), 55 percent of such costs.

3 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive an
4 award of funds under subsection (a), an eligible entity
5 shall submit to the Administrator an application at such
6 time, in such manner, and containing such information as
7 the Administrator may require, including—

8 (1) a description of the air quality in the area
9 served by the eligible entity, including a description
10 of how the air quality is affected by diesel emissions
11 from heavy-duty vehicles;

12 (2) a description of the project proposed by the
13 eligible entity, including—

14 (A) any technology to be used or funded by
15 the eligible entity; and

16 (B) a description of the heavy-duty vehicle
17 or vehicles of the eligible entity, that will be ret-
18 rofitted, if any, including—

19 (i) the number of such vehicles;

20 (ii) the uses of such vehicles;

21 (iii) the locations where such vehicles
22 dock for the purpose of loading or unload-
23 ing; and

1 (iv) the routes driven by such vehicles,
2 including the times at which such vehicles
3 are driven;

4 (3) an estimate of the cost of the proposed
5 project;

6 (4) a description of the age and expected life-
7 time control of the equipment used or funded by the
8 eligible entity; and

9 (5) provisions for the monitoring and
10 verification of the project including to verify
11 scrappage of any replaced units.

12 (e) PRIORITY.—In awarding funds under subsection
13 (a), the Administrator shall give priority to proposed
14 projects that, as determined by the Administrator—

15 (1) maximize public health benefits;

16 (2) are the most cost-effective; and

17 (3) will serve the communities that are most
18 polluted by diesel motor emissions, including com-
19 munities that the Administrator identifies as being
20 in either nonattainment or maintenance of the na-
21 tional ambient air quality standards for a criteria
22 pollutant under section 109 of the Clean Air Act (42
23 U.S.C. 7409), particularly for—

24 (A) ozone; and

25 (B) particulate matter.

1 (f) DATA RELEASE.—Not later than 120 days after
2 the date on which an award of funds is made under this
3 section, the Administrator shall publish on the website of
4 the Environmental Protection Agency, on a downloadable
5 electronic database, information with respect to such
6 award of funds, including—

7 (1) the name and location of the recipient;

8 (2) the total amount of funds awarded;

9 (3) the intended use or uses of the awarded
10 funds;

11 (4) the date on which the award of funds was
12 approved;

13 (5) where applicable, an estimate of any air pol-
14 lution or greenhouse gas emissions avoided as a re-
15 sult of the project funded by the award; and

16 (6) any other data the Administrator deter-
17 mines to be necessary for an evaluation of the use
18 and effect of awarded funds provided under this sec-
19 tion.

20 (g) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

21 (1) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later
22 than 1 year after the date of the establishment of
23 the pilot program under this section, and annually
24 thereafter until amounts made available to carry out
25 this section are fully expended, the Administrator

1 shall submit to Congress and make available to the
2 public a report that describes, with respect to the
3 applicable year—

4 (A) the number of applications for awards
5 of funds received under such program;

6 (B) all awards of funds made under such
7 program, including a summary of the data de-
8 scribed in subsection (f);

9 (C) the estimated reduction of annual
10 emissions of air pollutants regulated under sec-
11 tion 109 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C.
12 7409), and the estimated reduction of green-
13 house gas emissions, associated with the awards
14 of funds made under such program;

15 (D) the number of awards of funds made
16 under such program for projects in communities
17 described in subsection (e)(3); and

18 (E) any other data the Administrator de-
19 termines to be necessary to describe the imple-
20 mentation, outcomes, or effectiveness of such
21 program.

22 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
23 after amounts made available to carry out this sec-
24 tion are fully expended, or 5 years after the pilot
25 program is established, whichever comes first, the

1 Administrator shall submit to Congress and make
2 available to the public a report that describes—

3 (A) all of the information collected for the
4 annual reports under paragraph (1);

5 (B) any benefits to the environment or
6 human health that could result from the wide-
7 spread application of electric transport refrig-
8 eration units for short-haul transportation and
9 delivery of perishable goods or other goods re-
10 quiring climate-controlled conditions, including
11 in low-income communities and communities of
12 color;

13 (C) any challenges or benefits that recipi-
14 ents of awards of funds under such program re-
15 ported with respect to the integration or use of
16 electric transport refrigeration units and associ-
17 ated technologies;

18 (D) an assessment of the national market
19 potential for electric transport refrigeration
20 units;

21 (E) an assessment of challenges and op-
22 portunities for widespread deployment of elec-
23 tric transport refrigeration units, including in
24 urban areas; and

1 (F) recommendations for how future Fed-
2 eral, State, and local programs can best support
3 the adoption and widespread deployment of
4 electric transport refrigeration units.

5 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
7 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
8 mental Protection Agency.

9 (2) DIESEL-POWERED TRANSPORT REFRIGERA-
10 TION UNIT.—The term “diesel-powered transport re-
11 frigeration unit” means a transport refrigeration
12 unit that is powered by an independent diesel inter-
13 nal combustion engine.

14 (3) ELECTRIC TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION
15 UNIT.—The term “electric transport refrigeration
16 unit” means a transport refrigeration unit in which
17 the refrigeration or climate-control system is driven
18 by an electric motor when connected to shore power
19 infrastructure or other equipment that enables
20 transport refrigeration units to connect to electric
21 power, including all-electric transport refrigeration
22 units, hybrid electric transport refrigeration units,
23 and standby electric transport refrigeration units.

24 (4) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
25 ty” means—

1 (A) a regional, State, local, or Tribal agen-
2 cy, or port authority, with jurisdiction over
3 transportation or air quality;

4 (B) a nonprofit organization or institution
5 that—

6 (i) represents or provides pollution re-
7 duction or educational services to individ-
8 uals or organizations that own or operate
9 heavy-duty vehicles or fleets of heavy-duty
10 vehicles; or

11 (ii) has, as its principal purpose, the
12 promotion of air quality;

13 (C) an individual or entity that is the
14 owner of record of a heavy-duty vehicle or a
15 fleet of heavy-duty vehicles that operates for the
16 transportation and delivery of perishable goods
17 or other goods requiring climate-controlled con-
18 ditions;

19 (D) an individual or entity that is the
20 owner of record of a facility that operates as a
21 warehouse or storage facility for perishable
22 goods or other goods requiring climate-con-
23 trolled conditions; or

24 (E) a hospital or public health institution
25 that utilizes refrigeration for storage of perish-

1 able goods or other goods requiring climate-con-
2 trolled conditions.

3 (5) HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE.—The term “heavy-
4 duty vehicle” means—

5 (A) a commercial truck or van—

6 (i) used for the primary purpose of
7 transporting perishable goods or other
8 goods requiring climate-controlled condi-
9 tions; and

10 (ii) with a gross vehicle weight rating
11 greater than 6,000 pounds; or

12 (B) an insulated cargo trailer used in
13 transporting perishable goods or other goods re-
14 quiring climate-controlled conditions when
15 mounted on a semitrailer.

16 (6) SHORE POWER INFRASTRUCTURE.—The
17 term “shore power infrastructure” means electrical
18 infrastructure that provides power to the electric
19 transport refrigeration unit of a heavy-duty vehicle
20 when such vehicle is stationary on a property where
21 such vehicle is parked or loaded, including a food
22 distribution center or other location where heavy-
23 duty vehicles congregate.

24 (7) TRANSPORT REFRIGERATION UNIT.—The
25 term “transport refrigeration unit” means a climate-

1 control system installed on a heavy-duty vehicle for
2 the purpose of maintaining the quality of perishable
3 goods or other goods requiring climate-controlled
4 conditions.

5 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
7 appropriated to carry out this section \$30,000,000,
8 to remain available until expended.

9 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The Admin-
10 istrator may use not more than 1 percent of
11 amounts made available pursuant to paragraph (1)
12 for administrative expenses to carry out this section.

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