

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to require the consideration of a standard for promoting the use of demand-response technology and practices, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to require the consideration of a standard for promoting the use of demand-response technology and practices, 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 “Demand-Response
5 Management Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to promote the use of de-
3 mand-response technology and practices that support grid
4 resiliency and reliability during extreme weather events.

5 **SEC. 3. PROMOTION OF DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES.**

6 (a) CONSIDERATION OF DEMAND-RESPONSE STAND-
7 ARD.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 111(d) of the Public
9 Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.
10 2621(d)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(20) DEMAND-RESPONSE PRACTICES.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each electric utility
14 shall promote the use of demand-response prac-
15 tices by commercial, residential, and industrial
16 consumers to reduce electricity consumption
17 during periods of unusually high demand.

18 “(B) RATE RECOVERY.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each State regu-
20 latory authority shall consider establishing
21 rate mechanisms allowing an electric utility
22 with respect to which the State regulatory
23 authority has ratemaking authority to
24 timely recover the costs of promoting de-
25 mand-response practices in accordance
26 with subparagraph (A).

1 “(ii) NONREGULATED ELECTRIC UTIL-
2 ITIES.—A nonregulated electric utility may
3 establish rate mechanisms for the timely
4 recovery of the costs of promoting demand-
5 response practices in accordance with sub-
6 paragraph (A).”.

7 (2) COMPLIANCE.—

8 (A) TIME LIMITATIONS.—Section 112(b)
9 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of
10 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(b)) is amended by add-
11 ing at the end the following:

12 “(7)(A) Not later than 1 year after the date of
13 enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory
14 authority (with respect to each electric utility for
15 which the State has ratemaking authority) and each
16 nonregulated electric utility shall commence consid-
17 eration under section 111, or set a hearing date for
18 consideration, with respect to the standard estab-
19 lished by paragraph (20) of section 111(d).

20 “(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of
21 enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory
22 authority (with respect to each electric utility for
23 which the State has ratemaking authority), and each
24 nonregulated electric utility shall complete the con-
25 sideration and make the determination under section

1 111 with respect to the standard established by
2 paragraph (20) of section 111(d).”.

3 (B) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—Section 112(c) of
5 the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act
6 of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(c)) is amended—

7 (I) by striking “such paragraph
8 (14)” and all that follows through
9 “paragraphs (16)” and inserting
10 “such paragraph (14). In the case of
11 the standard established by paragraph
12 (15) of section 111(d), the reference
13 contained in this subsection to the
14 date of enactment of this Act shall be
15 deemed to be a reference to the date
16 of enactment of that paragraph (15).
17 In the case of the standards estab-
18 lished by paragraphs (16)”; and

19 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
20 lowing: “In the case of the standard
21 established by paragraph (20) of sec-
22 tion 111(d), the reference contained in
23 this subsection to the date of enact-
24 ment of this Act shall be deemed to be

1 a reference to the date of enactment
2 of that paragraph (20).”.

3 (ii) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Para-
4 graph (2) of section 1254(b) of the Energy
5 Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58;
6 119 Stat. 971) is repealed and the amend-
7 ment made by that paragraph (as in effect
8 on the day before the date of enactment of
9 this Act) is void, and section 112(d) of the
10 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of
11 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622(d)) shall be in ef-
12 fect as if that amendment had not been en-
13 acted.

14 (C) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—

15 (i) IN GENERAL.—Section 112 of the
16 Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of
17 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended by add-
18 ing at the end the following:

19 “(g) PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections (b) and
20 (c) shall not apply to the standard established by para-
21 graph (20) of section 111(d) in the case of any electric
22 utility in a State if, before the date of enactment of this
23 subsection—

24 “(1) the State has implemented for the electric
25 utility the standard (or a comparable standard);

1 “(2) the State regulatory authority for the
2 State or the relevant nonregulated electric utility has
3 conducted a proceeding to consider implementation
4 of the standard (or a comparable standard) for the
5 electric utility; or

6 “(3) the State legislature has voted on the im-
7 plementation of the standard (or a comparable
8 standard) for the electric utility.”.

9 (ii) CROSS-REFERENCE.—Section 124
10 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies
11 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amend-
12 ed—

13 (I) by striking “this subsection”
14 each place it appears and inserting
15 “this section”; and

16 (II) by adding at the end the fol-
17 lowing: “In the case of the standard
18 established by paragraph (20) of sec-
19 tion 111(d), the reference contained in
20 this section to the date of enactment
21 of this Act shall be deemed to be a
22 reference to the date of enactment of
23 that paragraph (20).”.

1 (b) OPTIONAL FEATURES OF STATE ENERGY CON-
2 SERVATION PLANS.—Section 362(d) of the Energy Policy
3 and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6322(d)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (16), by striking “and” at the
5 end;

6 (2) by redesignating paragraph (17) as para-
7 graph (18); and

8 (3) by inserting after paragraph (16) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(17) programs that promote the installation
11 and use of demand-response technology and de-
12 mand-response practices; and”.

13 (c) FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—
14 Section 543(i) of the National Energy Conservation Policy
15 Act (42 U.S.C. 8253(i)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (1)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
18 “and” at the end;

19 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
20 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

21 (C) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(C) to reduce energy consumption during
23 periods of unusually high electricity or natural
24 gas demand.”; and

25 (2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

1 (A) in clause (v), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (B) in clause (vi), by striking the period at
4 the end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(vii) promote the installation of de-
7 mand-response technology and the use of
8 demand-response practices in Federal
9 buildings.”.

10 (d) COMPONENTS OF ZERO-NET-ENERGY COMMER-
11 CIAL BUILDINGS INITIATIVE.—Section 422(d)(3) of the
12 Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42
13 U.S.C. 17082(d)) is amended by inserting “(including de-
14 mand-response technologies, practices, and policies)” after
15 “policies”.