

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 129

To study and promote the use of energy-efficient computer servers in the
United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. ALLARD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To study and promote the use of energy-efficient computer
servers in the United States.

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. STUDY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
6 Environmental Protection Agency, acting through the En-
7 ergy Star program, shall submit to Congress a report de-
8 scribing the results of a study analyzing the rapid growth
9 and energy consumption of computer data centers by the
10 Federal Government and the private sector.

1 (b) INCLUSIONS.—The study shall include—

2 (1) an overview of the growth trends associated
3 with data centers and the use of servers in the Fed-
4 eral Government and private sector;

5 (2) analysis of the industry migration to the use
6 of energy-efficient microchips and servers designed
7 to provide energy-efficient computing and reduce the
8 costs associated with constructing, operating, and
9 maintaining large- and medium-scale data centers;

10 (3) analysis of the potential cost savings to the
11 Federal Government, large institutional data center
12 operators, the private sector, and consumers avail-
13 able through the adoption of energy-efficient data
14 centers and servers;

15 (4) analysis of the potential cost savings and
16 benefits to the energy supply chain through the
17 adoption of energy-efficient data centers and servers,
18 including—

19 (A) reduced demand, enhanced capacity,
20 and reduced strain on existing grid infrastruc-
21 ture; and

22 (B) consideration of secondary benefits, in-
23 cluding the potential impact of related advan-
24 tages associated with substantial domestic en-
25 ergy savings;

1 (5) analysis of the potential impacts of energy
2 efficiency on product performance, including com-
3 puting functionality, reliability, speed, and features,
4 and overall cost;

5 (6) analysis of the potential cost savings and
6 benefits to the energy supply chain through the use
7 of stationary fuel cells for backup power and distrib-
8 uted generation;

9 (7) an overview of current government incen-
10 tives offered for energy-efficient products and serv-
11 ices and consideration of similar incentives to en-
12 courage the adoption of energy-efficient data centers
13 and servers;

14 (8) recommendations regarding potential incen-
15 tives and voluntary programs that could be used to
16 advance the adoption of energy-efficient data centers
17 and computing; and

18 (9) a meaningful opportunity for interested
19 stakeholders, including affected industry stake-
20 holders and energy efficiency advocates, to provide
21 comments, data, and other information on the scope,
22 contents, and conclusions of the study.

23 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

24 It is the sense of Congress that it is in the best inter-
25 est of the United States for purchasers of computer serv-

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- 1 ers to give high priority to energy efficiency as a factor
- 2 in determining best value and performance for purchases
- 3 of computer servers.

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