

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To prohibit any regulations promulgated pursuant to a presidential memorandum relating to power sector carbon pollution standards from taking effect.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To prohibit any regulations promulgated pursuant to a presidential memorandum relating to power sector carbon pollution standards from taking effect.

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 “National Energy Tax
5 Repeal Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8 (1) on June 25, 2013, President Obama issued
9 a Presidential memorandum directing the Adminis-

1 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency to
2 issue regulations relating to power sector carbon pol-
3 lution standards for existing coal fired power plants;

4 (2) the issuance of that memorandum cir-
5 cumvents Congress and the will of the people of the
6 United States;

7 (3) any action to control emissions of green-
8 house gases from existing coal fired power plants in
9 the United States by mandating a national energy
10 tax would devastate major sectors of the economy,
11 cost thousands of jobs, and increase energy costs for
12 low-income households, small businesses, and seniors
13 on fixed income;

14 (4) joblessness increases the likelihood of hos-
15 pital visits, illnesses, and premature deaths;

16 (5) according to testimony on June 15, 2011,
17 before the Committee on Environment and Public
18 Works of the Senate by Dr. Harvey Brenner of
19 Johns Hopkins University, “The unemployment rate
20 is well established as a risk factor for elevated illness
21 and mortality rates in epidemiological studies per-
22 formed since the early 1980s. In addition to influ-
23 ences on mental disorder, suicide and alcohol abuse
24 and alcoholism, unemployment is also an important

1 risk factor in cardiovascular disease and overall de-
2 creases in life expectancy.”;

3 (6) according to the National Center for Health
4 Statistics, “children in poor families were four times
5 as likely to be in fair or poor health as children that
6 were not poor”;

7 (7) any major decision that would cost the
8 economy of the United States millions of dollars and
9 lead to serious negative health effects for the people
10 of the United States should be debated and explicitly
11 authorized by Congress, not approved by a Presi-
12 dential memorandum or regulations; and

13 (8) any policy adopted by Congress should
14 make United States energy as clean as practicable,
15 as quickly as practicable, without increasing the cost
16 of energy for struggling families, seniors, low-income
17 households, and small businesses.

18 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

19 (1) to ensure that—

20 (A) a national energy tax is not imposed
21 on the economy of the United States; and

22 (B) struggling families, seniors, low-income
23 households, and small businesses do not experi-
24 ence skyrocketing electricity bills and jobless-
25 ness;

1 (2) to protect the people of the United States,
2 particularly families, seniors, and children, from the
3 serious negative health effects of joblessness;

4 (3) to allow sufficient time for Congress to de-
5 velop and authorize an appropriate mechanism to
6 address the energy needs of the United States and
7 the potential challenges posed by severe weather;
8 and

9 (4) to restore the legislative process and con-
10 gressional authority over the energy policy of the
11 United States.

12 **SEC. 3. PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM.**

13 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the head
14 of a Federal agency shall not promulgate any regulation
15 relating to power sector carbon pollution standards or any
16 substantially similar regulation on or after June 25, 2013,
17 unless that regulation is explicitly authorized by an Act
18 of Congress.