

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2017

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study of the feasibility of developing regional vehicle fuel specifications for the United States and of implementing the use of a uniform blend of gasoline in the Midwest region of the United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin (for himself, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. WELLER, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, and Mrs. BIGGERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study of the feasibility of developing regional vehicle fuel specifications for the United States and of implementing the use of a uniform blend of gasoline in the Midwest region of 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       The Administrator of the Environmental Protection  
5       Agency (referred to in this Act as the “Administrator”),

1 in consultation with the Energy Information Administra-  
2 tion, shall conduct a study of—

3 (1) the feasibility of developing regional vehicle  
4 fuel specifications for the contiguous United States  
5 that would—

6 (A) enhance flexibility in the fuel distribu-  
7 tion infrastructure and improve fuel fungibility;

8 (B) reduce price volatility and costs to con-  
9 sumers and producers;

10 (C) meet local, regional, and national air  
11 quality requirements and goals; and

12 (D) provide increased gasoline market li-  
13 quidity; and

14 (2) the feasibility of alleviating gasoline supply  
15 problems and inflated gasoline prices through the  
16 use of a uniform blend of ethanol-based gasoline in  
17 the various regions of the United States, focusing on  
18 the Midwest region, and addressing—

19 (A) whether it is feasible, practical, and  
20 advisable to use a single, uniform blend of eth-  
21 anol-based gasoline in the Midwest region of the  
22 United States, rather than the numerous dif-  
23 ferent blends that are required under Federal,  
24 State, and local law;

1           (B) the regulatory and statutory changes  
2           that would be required to permit the use of  
3           such a single blend of gasoline throughout the  
4           Midwest region;

5           (C) any modifications to refineries needed  
6           to enable such refineries to produce a sufficient  
7           amount of such a single blend of gasoline to  
8           supply the entire Midwest region;

9           (D) the amount of ethanol that would be  
10          required to produce a sufficient amount of eth-  
11          anol-based gasoline, and whether the ethanol in-  
12          dustry has the capacity to meet the probable  
13          demand;

14          (E) the length of time that would be re-  
15          quired to replace the various blends of gasoline  
16          with a single blend of ethanol-based gasoline;  
17          and

18          (F) whether producing such a uniform  
19          blend of gasoline would have the effect of low-  
20          ering and stabilizing gasoline prices in the Mid-  
21          west region, in all areas including nonattain-  
22          ment areas, as defined by section 171(2) of the  
23          Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7501(2)).

1 **SEC. 2. DEADLINE.**

2       The study required by section 1 shall be completed  
3 not later than 4 months after the date of the enactment  
4 of this Act.

5 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

6       (a) IN GENERAL.—Upon completion of the study, the  
7 Administrator shall report her findings, conclusions, and  
8 recommendations to the Congress.

9       (b) SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS.—The Administra-  
10 tor’s conclusions and recommendations shall include pro-  
11 posed boundaries for each region of the United States as  
12 contemplated by the study, taking into consideration any  
13 practical, technical, political, and legal concerns, and may  
14 also identify other potential means for alleviating gasoline  
15 supply problems and inflated gasoline prices.

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