

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1381

To require the Federal Trade Commission to monitor and investigate gasoline prices under certain circumstances.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 14, 2007

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Federal Trade Commission to monitor and investigate gasoline prices under certain circumstances.

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. INVESTIGATION OF GASOLINE PRICES.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—If, based on weekly data published
5 by the Energy Information Administration of the Depart-
6 ment of Energy, the average price of regular grade gaso-
7 line in a State increases 20 percent or more for at least
8 7 days during any 3-month period, the Federal Trade
9 Commission shall initiate an investigation into the retail
10 price of gasoline in that State to determine if the price

1 of gasoline is being artificially manipulated by reducing
2 refinery capacity or by any other form of manipulation.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the initia-
4 tion of the investigation described in subsection (a), the
5 Federal Trade Commission shall report to Congress the
6 results of the investigation.

7 (c) PUBLIC MEETING.—Not later than 14 days after
8 issuing the report described in subsection (b), the Federal
9 Trade Commission shall hold a public hearing in the State
10 in which the retail price of gasoline was investigated as
11 described in subsection (a) for the purpose of presenting
12 the results of the investigation.

13 (d) ACTION ON PRICE INCREASE.—If the Federal
14 Trade Commission determines that the increase in gaso-
15 line prices in a State is a result of market manipulation,
16 the Federal Trade Commission shall, in cooperation with
17 the Attorney General of that State, take appropriate ac-
18 tion.

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