

S 156

Water Heater Rating Improvement Act of 2011

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Jan 25, 2011

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Jan 25, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/156>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kohl, Herb [D-WI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Corker, Bob [R-TN]	R · TN		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 14, 2011
Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]	R · WI		Nov 30, 2011
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Nov 30, 2011

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 25, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 6582	Related bill	Dec 18, 2012: Became Public Law No: 112-210.
112 HR 4850	Related bill	Sep 24, 2012: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
112 S 398	Related bill	May 18, 2011: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 54.
112 HR 482	Identical bill	Feb 9, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

Water Heater Rating Improvement Act of 2011 - Amends the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) to require the Secretary of Energy (DOE) to publish a rule that establishes a uniform efficiency descriptor and accompanying test methods for water heaters, storage water heaters, instantaneous water heaters, and unfired water storage tanks (covered heaters) no later than 180 days after this Act's enactment. Requires: (1) the efficiency descriptor and accompanying test method to apply to all water heating technologies in use and to future water heating technologies, and (2) the efficiency standard to be denominated according to the efficiency descriptor.

Sets forth provisions concerning a mathematical conversion factor for converting the measurement of efficiency for covered heaters from the test procedures in effect on the date of enactment of this Act to the new energy descriptor.

Authorizes the rule to exclude a specific category of covered water heaters from the uniform efficiency descriptor if the category of water heaters: (1) does not have a residential use and can be clearly described, and (2) are rated effectively using the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors applied to the category.

Requires the Secretary, in establishing the rule, to contract with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to conduct testing and simulation of alternative descriptors identified for consideration.

Considers a covered water heater to be in compliance with the rule and with any revised labeling requirements established by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to implement the rule if the covered water heater: (1) was manufactured prior to the effective date of the rule, and (2) complied with the efficiency standards and labeling requirements in effect prior to the rule.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 25, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S227-228)
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.