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American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2011

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Jan 25, 2011

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment. (Dec 2, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/99>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jan 25, 2011

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Budget Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 18, 2011
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 18, 2011
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	May 18, 2011
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 2, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 4310	Related bill	Jan 2, 2013: Became Public Law No: 112-239.
112 S 3254	Related bill	Dec 12, 2012: Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 829, papers are returned to the Senate.

American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2011 - (Sec. 3) Directs the Secretary of Energy (DOE) to implement a technology-neutral program to evaluate and support projects for the production in the United States (except in certain circumstances without the use of highly enriched uranium) of significant quantities of molybdenum-99 for medical uses, implemented in cooperation with non-federal entities, whose costs shall be shared in accordance with certain cost sharing requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) develop and update annually a program plan through public workshops; (2) use the Nuclear Science Advisory Committee to conduct annual reviews of progress in achieving program goals; and (3) implement a program to provide assistance for the development of fuels, targets, and processes for domestic molybdenum-99 production that do not use highly enriched uranium, and for commercial operations using them.

Requires the Secretary to establish a program to make low enriched uranium available, through lease contracts, for irradiation for molybdenum-99 production for medical uses.

Requires such contracts to provide for the producers of the molybdenum-99 to take title to and be responsible for the molybdenum-99 created by the irradiation, processing, or purification of uranium leased under this Act.

Requires the contracts to require the Secretary to: (1) retain responsibility for the final disposition of spent nuclear fuel created under this Act for medical isotopes production; and (2) take title to and be responsible for final disposition of radioactive waste created by the irradiation, processing, or purification of uranium leased under this Act for which the producer does not have access to a disposal path.

Requires the producer of the spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste to characterize accurately, package appropriately, and transport the spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste before its acceptance by DOE.

Prohibits the Secretary from exchanging uranium for specified services.

Deems radioactive material resulting from the production of medical isotopes that has been permanently removed from a reactor or subcritical assembly, and for which there is no further use, to be low-level radioactive waste if it is acceptable under federal requirements for disposal as low-level radioactive waste.

(Sec. 4) Amends the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to: (1) prohibit the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) from issuing a license for the export of highly enriched uranium from the United States, beginning seven years after enactment of this Act; and (2) authorize an extension of this seven-year period for up to another six years if the Secretary makes specified certifications to certain congressional committees.

Permits suspension of the export license restriction for a 12-month period if: (1) there is a critical shortage of molybdenum-99 to satisfy domestic U.S. medical isotope needs, (2) the Secretary certifies to Congress that the export of U.S.-origin highly enriched uranium for medical isotope production is the only effective temporary means to increase the supply of molybdenum-99 necessary to meet U.S. medical isotope needs during that period, and (3) Congress enacts a joint resolution approving the temporary suspension of such export license restriction.

(Sec. 5) Requires the NRC Chairman to report to Congress on the current disposition of previous US exports of highly enriched uranium used as fuel or targets in a nuclear research or test reactor.

(Sec. 6) Amends the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to authorize the NRC to issue a license, or grant an amendment to an

existing license, for use in the United States of highly enriched uranium as a target for medical isotope production in a nuclear reactor, but only if specified conditions are met, including certification by the Secretary that the federal government is actively supporting development of an alternative medical isotope production target that can be used in that reactor.

(Sec. 7) Directs the Secretary to report to Congress annually for five years on DOE actions to support U.S. production of molybdenum-99 for medical uses without the use of highly enriched uranium.

(Sec. 8) Instructs the Secretary to arrange with the National Academy of Sciences to study the state of molybdenum-99 production and utilization.

(Sec. 9) Repeals the Nuclear Safety Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1980.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 2, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.
- **Nov 18, 2011:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 18, 2011:** Received in the House.
- **Nov 18, 2011:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Nov 18, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.
- **Nov 17, 2011:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S7778-7782; text of measure as reported in Senate: CR S7778-7780)
- **Nov 17, 2011:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text: CR S7780-7782)
- **Nov 17, 2011:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR S7780-7782)
- **May 18, 2011:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Bingaman with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 112-17.
- **May 18, 2011:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 53.
- **Apr 12, 2011:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Feb 1, 2011:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 112-4.
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S188, S189-191)
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (text of measure as introduced: CR S188-189)

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