

## S 1776

### Agricultural Energy Programs Reauthorization Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Sep 7, 2017

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Sep 7, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1776>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]

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

## Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Sep 7, 2017
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Sep 7, 2017
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Sep 12, 2017

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 7, 2017

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 2619	Related bill	Mar 22, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

## **Agricultural Energy Programs Reauthorization Act of 2017**

This bill amends the Farm Security Rural Investment Act of 2002 to reauthorize through FY2023 several Department of Agriculture (USDA) energy programs, including:

- the Biobased Markets Program;
- the Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program;
- the Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuels;
- the Rural Energy For America Program (REAP);
- the Biomass Research and Development Initiative;
- the Feedstock Flexibility Program; and
- the Community Wood Energy Program.

The bill modifies and reauthorizes the Biomass Crop Assistance Program to:

- rename it the Biofuels and Biobased Product Feedstock and Wildland Fire Protection Program;
- require USDA to provide assistance under the program for hazardous woody fuel reduction projects; and
- expand the definition of eligible materials to include algae and animal waste byproducts, including fat, oil, grease, and manure.

The bill provides mandatory funding through FY2023 for several of the reauthorized programs.

The bill modifies the Biobased Markets Program to: (1) include producers of renewable chemicals in the voluntary labeling program, and (2) require USDA and the Department of Commerce to jointly develop North American Industry Classification system codes for renewable chemical manufacturers and biobased products manufacturers.

The bill modifies REAP to prohibit more than 30% of the funds from being used each year for: (1) any one form of renewable energy, or (2) technologies to improve the efficiency of energy usage.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Sep 7, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 7, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.