

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 129

To study and promote the use of energy-efficient computer servers in the  
United States.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. ALLARD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred  
to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To study and promote the use of energy-efficient computer  
servers in 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 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the  
6 Environmental Protection Agency, acting through the En-  
7 ergy Star program, shall submit to Congress a report de-  
8 scribing the results of a study analyzing the rapid growth  
9 and energy consumption of computer data centers by the  
10 Federal Government and the private sector.

1 (b) INCLUSIONS.—The study shall include—

2 (1) an overview of the growth trends associated  
3 with data centers and the use of servers in the Fed-  
4 eral Government and private sector;

5 (2) analysis of the industry migration to the use  
6 of energy-efficient microchips and servers designed  
7 to provide energy-efficient computing and reduce the  
8 costs associated with constructing, operating, and  
9 maintaining large- and medium-scale data centers;

10 (3) analysis of the potential cost savings to the  
11 Federal Government, large institutional data center  
12 operators, the private sector, and consumers avail-  
13 able through the adoption of energy-efficient data  
14 centers and servers;

15 (4) analysis of the potential cost savings and  
16 benefits to the energy supply chain through the  
17 adoption of energy-efficient data centers and servers,  
18 including—

19 (A) reduced demand, enhanced capacity,  
20 and reduced strain on existing grid infrastruc-  
21 ture; and

22 (B) consideration of secondary benefits, in-  
23 cluding the potential impact of related advan-  
24 tages associated with substantial domestic en-  
25 ergy savings;

1           (5) analysis of the potential impacts of energy  
2 efficiency on product performance, including com-  
3 puting functionality, reliability, speed, and features,  
4 and overall cost;

5           (6) analysis of the potential cost savings and  
6 benefits to the energy supply chain through the use  
7 of stationary fuel cells for backup power and distrib-  
8 uted generation;

9           (7) an overview of current government incen-  
10 tives offered for energy-efficient products and serv-  
11 ices and consideration of similar incentives to en-  
12 courage the adoption of energy-efficient data centers  
13 and servers;

14           (8) recommendations regarding potential incen-  
15 tives and voluntary programs that could be used to  
16 advance the adoption of energy-efficient data centers  
17 and computing; and

18           (9) a meaningful opportunity for interested  
19 stakeholders, including affected industry stake-  
20 holders and energy efficiency advocates, to provide  
21 comments, data, and other information on the scope,  
22 contents, and conclusions of the study.

23 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

24           It is the sense of Congress that it is in the best inter-  
25 est of the United States for purchasers of computer serv-

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- 1 ers to give high priority to energy efficiency as a factor
- 2 in determining best value and performance for purchases
- 3 of computer servers.

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