

“(3) transportation uses account for more than 60 percent of the oil consumption of the Nation;

“(4) the Nation’s security, economic, and environmental interests require that the Federal Government should assist clean-burning, nonpetroleum transportation fuels to reach a threshold level of commercial application and consumer acceptability at which they can successfully compete with petroleum-based fuels;

“(5) methanol, ethanol, and natural gas are proven transportation fuels that burn more cleanly and efficiently than gasoline and diesel fuel;

“(6) the production and use as transportation fuels of ethanol, methanol made from natural gas or biomass, and compressed natural gas have been estimated in some studies to release less carbon dioxide than comparable quantities of petroleum-based fuel;

“(7) the amount of carbon dioxide released with methanol from a coal-to-methanol industry using currently available technologies has been estimated in some studies to be significantly greater than the amount released with a comparable quantity of petroleum-based fuel;

“(8) there exists evidence that manmade pollution—the release of carbon dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons, methane, and other trace gases into the atmosphere—may be producing a long term and substantial increase in the average temperature on Earth, a phenomenon known as global warming through the greenhouse effect; and

“(9) ongoing pollution and deforestation may be contributing now to an irreversible process producing unacceptable global climate changes; necessary actions must be identified and implemented in time to protect the climate, including the development of technologies to control increased carbon dioxide emissions that result with methanol from a coal-to-methanol industry.”

PURPOSE

Pub. L. 100-494, §3, Oct. 14, 1988, 102 Stat. 2442, provided that: “The purpose of this Act [see Short Title of 1988 Amendment note set out under section 6201 of this title] is to encourage—

“(1) the development and widespread use of methanol, ethanol, and natural gas as transportation fuels by consumers; and

“(2) the production of methanol, ethanol, and natural gas powered motor vehicles.”

USE OF NONSTANDARD FUELS

Pub. L. 100-494, §5, Oct. 14, 1988, 102 Stat. 2448, provided that: “No guaranty or warranty with respect to any passenger automobile or light-duty truck acquired by the United States after October 1, 1989, shall be voided or reduced in effect by reason of the operation of such vehicle with any fuel for which a currently effective waiver, which includes a limitation regarding Reid vapor pressure with respect to such fuel, has been issued by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under section 211(f) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(f)).”

§ 6374a. Alternative fuels truck commercial application program

(a) Establishment

The Secretary, in cooperation with manufacturers of heavy duty engines and with other Federal agencies, shall establish a commercial application program to study the use of alternative fuels in heavy duty trucks and, if appropriate, other heavy duty applications.

(b) Funding

(1) There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for carrying out this section such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 1993

through 1995, to remain available until expended.

(2) The authority of the Secretary to obligate amounts to be expended under this section shall be effective for any fiscal year only to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in advance by appropriation Acts.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title III, §400BB, as added Pub. L. 100-494, §4(a), Oct. 14, 1988, 102 Stat. 2444; amended Pub. L. 102-486, title IV, §401, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2875.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-486, §401(a), substituted “alternative fuels” for “alcohol and natural gas”.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 102-486, §401(b), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated for the period encompassing the fiscal years ending September 30, 1990, September 30, 1991, and September 30, 1992, a total of \$2,000,000 for alcohol powered vehicles and dual energy vehicles, and a total of \$2,000,000 for natural gas powered vehicles and natural gas dual energy vehicles, to carry out the purposes of this section.”

§ 6374b. Alternative fuels bus program

(a) Testing

The Secretary, in cooperation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, shall, beginning in the fiscal year ending September 30, 1990, assist State and local government agencies in the testing in urban settings of buses capable of operating on alternative fuels for the emissions levels, durability, safety, and fuel economy of such buses, comparing the different types with each other and with diesel powered buses, as such buses will be required to operate under Federal safety and environmental standards applicable to such buses for the model year 1991. To the extent practicable, testing assisted under this section shall apply to each of the various types of alternative fuel buses.

(b) Funding

There are authorized to be appropriated for the period encompassing the fiscal years ending September 30, 1990, September 30, 1991, and September 30, 1992, a total of \$2,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this section.

(c) “Bus” defined

For purposes of this section, the term “bus” means a vehicle which is designed to transport 30 individuals or more.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title III, §400CC, as added Pub. L. 100-494, §4(a), Oct. 14, 1988, 102 Stat. 2445; amended Pub. L. 102-486, title IV, §402(1), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2875.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-486 substituted “alternative fuels” for “alcohol and buses capable of operating on natural gas” and “each of the various types of alternative fuel buses” for “both buses capable of operating on alcohol and buses capable of operating on natural gas”.

§ 6374c. Omitted

CODIFICATION

Section, Pub. L. 94-163, title III, §400DD, as added Pub. L. 100-494, §4(a), Oct. 14, 1988, 102 Stat. 2445;