AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–63
OFFERED BY MR. LOEBSACK OF IOWA

Add at the end of part 3 of subtitle A of title I the following:

SEC. 1122. GRANTS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS AT PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means a consortium of—

(A) one local educational agency; and

(B) one or more—

(i) schools;

(ii) nonprofit organizations;

(iii) for-profit organizations; or

(iv) community partners that have the knowledge and capacity to partner and assist with energy improvements.

(2) ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS.—The term “energy improvements” means—

(A) any improvement, repair, or renovation, to a school that will result in a direct re-
duction in school energy costs including but not limited to improvements to building envelope, air conditioning, ventilation, heating system, domestic hot water heating, compressed air systems, distribution systems, lighting, power systems and controls;

(B) any improvement, repair, renovation, or installation that leads to an improvement in teacher and student health including but not limited to indoor air quality, daylighting, ventilation, electrical lighting, and acoustics; and

(C) the installation of renewable energy technologies (such as wind power, photovoltaics, solar thermal systems, geothermal energy, hydrogen-fueled systems, biomass-based systems, biofuels, anaerobic digesters, and hydropower) involved in the improvement, repair, or renovation to a school.

(b) AUTHORITY.—From amounts made available for grants under this section, the Secretary of Energy shall provide competitive grants to eligible entities to make energy improvements authorized by this section.

(e) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that
have renovation, repair, and improvement funding needs

and are—

(1) a high-need local educational agency, as defined in section 2102 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6602); or

(2) a local educational agency designated with a metrocentric locale code of 41, 42, or 43, as determined by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), in conjunction with the Bureau of the Census, using the NCES system for classifying local educational agencies.

(d) COMPETITIVE CRITERIA.—The competitive criteria used by the Secretary shall include the following:

(1) The fiscal capacity of the eligible entity to meet the needs for improvements of school facilities without assistance under this section, including the ability of the eligible entity to raise funds through the use of local bonding capacity and otherwise.

(2) The likelihood that the local educational agency or eligible entity will maintain, in good condition, any facility whose improvement is assisted.

(3) The potential energy efficiency and safety benefits from the proposed energy improvements.
(c) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an applicant must submit to the Secretary an application that includes each of the following:

(1) A needs assessment of the current condition of the school and facilities that are to receive the energy improvements.

(2) A draft work plan of what the applicant hopes to achieve at the school and a description of the energy improvements to be carried out.

(3) A description of the applicant’s capacity to provide services and comprehensive support to make the energy improvements.

(4) An assessment of the applicant’s expected needs for operation and maintenance training funds, and a plan for use of those funds, if any.

(5) An assessment of the expected energy efficiency and safety benefits of the energy improvements.

(6) A cost estimate of the proposed energy improvements.

(7) An identification of other resources that are available to carry out the activities for which funds are requested under this section, including the availability of utility programs and public benefit funds.

(f) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The recipient of a grant under this section shall use the grant amounts only to make the energy improvements contemplated in the application, subject to the other provisions of this subsection.

(2) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING.—The recipient may use up to 5 percent for operation and maintenance training for energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements (such as maintenance staff and teacher training, education, and preventative maintenance training).

(3) AUDIT.—The recipient may use funds for a third-party investigation and analysis for energy improvements (such as energy audits and existing building commissioning).

(4) CONTINUING EDUCATION.—The recipient may use up to 1 percent of the grant amounts to develop a continuing education curriculum relating to energy improvements.

(g) CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) DAVIS-BACON.—Any laborer or mechanic employed by any contractor or subcontractor in the performance of work on any energy improvements funded by a grant under this section shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on
similar construction in the locality as determined by
the Secretary of Labor under subchapter IV of chap-
ter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly re-
ferred to as the Davis-Bacon Act).

(2) COMPETITION.—Each applicant that re-
ceives funds shall ensure that, if the applicant car-
ries out repair or renovation through a contract, any
such contract process—

(A) ensures the maximum number of quali-
fied bidders, including small, minority, and
women-owned businesses, through full and open
competition; and

(B) gives priority to businesses located in,
or resources common to, the State or the geo-
graphical area in which the project is carried
out.

(h) REPORTING.—Each recipient of a grant under
this section shall submit to the Secretary, at such time
as the Secretary may require, a report describing the use
of such funds for energy improvements, the estimated cost
savings realized by those energy improvements, the results
of any audit, the use of any utility programs and public
benefit funds and the use of performance tracking for en-
ergy improvements (such as the Department of Energy:
Energy Star program or LEED for Existing Buildings).
(i) **BEST PRACTICES.**—The Secretary shall develop and publish guidelines and best practices for activities carried out under this section.

(j) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.