

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2454
OFFERED BY MRS. CHRISTENSEN OF VIRGIN
ISLANDS

At the end of title II of the bill, add the following
(and revise the table of contents in section 1(b) accord-
ingly):

1 **Subtitle G—Affiliated Island**
2 **Energy Independence**

3 **SEC. 271. AFFILIATED ISLAND ENERGY INDEPENDENCE**

4 **TEAM.**

5 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

6 (1) **AFFILIATED ISLAND.**—The term “affiliated
7 island” means—

8 (A) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

9 (B) Guam;

10 (C) American Samoa;

11 (D) the Commonwealth of the Northern
12 Mariana Islands;

13 (E) the Federated States of Micronesia;

14 (F) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

15 (G) the Republic of Palau; and

16 (H) the United States Virgin Islands.

1 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Energy (acting through the Assist-
3 ant Secretary of Energy Efficiency and Renewable
4 Energy), in consultation with the Secretary of the
5 Interior and the Secretary of State.

6 (3) TEAM.—The term “team” means the team
7 established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

8 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—As soon as practicable after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall as-
10 semble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts
11 to address the energy needs of each affiliated island—

12 (1) to reduce the reliance and expenditure of
13 each affiliated island on imported fossil fuels;

14 (2) to increase the use by each affiliated island
15 of indigenous, nonfossil fuel energy sources;

16 (3) to improve the performance of the energy
17 infrastructure of the affiliated island through
18 projects—

19 (A) to improve the energy efficiency of
20 power generation, transmission, and distribu-
21 tion; and

22 (B) to increase consumer energy efficiency;

23 (4) to improve the performance of the energy
24 infrastructure of each affiliated island through en-
25 hanced planning, education, and training;

1 (5) to adopt research-based and public-private
2 partnership-based approaches as appropriate;

3 (6) to stimulate economic development and job
4 creation; and

5 (7) to enhance the engagement by the Federal
6 Government in international efforts to address island
7 energy needs.

8 (c) DUTIES OF TEAM.—

9 (1) ENERGY ACTION PLANS.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with
11 subparagraph (B), the team shall provide tech-
12 nical, programmatic, and financial assistance to
13 each utility of each affiliated island, and the
14 government of each affiliated island, as appro-
15 priate, to develop and implement an energy Ac-
16 tion Plan for each affiliated island to reduce the
17 reliance of each affiliated island on imported
18 fossil fuels through increased efficiency and use
19 of indigenous clean-energy resources.

20 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—Each Action Plan
21 described in subparagraph (A) for each affli-
22 ated island shall require and provide for—

23 (i) the conduct of 1 or more studies to
24 assess opportunities to reduce fossil fuel
25 use through—

1 (I) the improvement of the en-
2 ergy efficiency of the affiliated island;
3 and

4 (II) the increased use by the af-
5 filiated island of indigenous clean-en-
6 ergy resources;

7 (ii) the identification and implementa-
8 tion of the most cost-effective strategies
9 and projects to reduce the dependence of
10 the affiliated island on fossil fuels;

11 (iii) the promotion of education and
12 training activities to improve the capacity
13 of the local utilities of the affiliated island,
14 and the government of the affiliated island,
15 as appropriate, to plan for, maintain, and
16 operate the energy infrastructure of the af-
17 filiated island through the use of local or
18 regional institutions, as appropriate;

19 (iv) the coordination of the activities
20 described in clause (iii) to leverage the ex-
21 pertise and resources of international enti-
22 ties, the Department of Energy, the De-
23 partment of the Interior, and the regional
24 utilities of the affiliated island;

1 (v) the identification, and develop-
2 ment, as appropriate, of research-based
3 and private-public, partnership approaches
4 to implement the Action Plan; and

5 (vi) any other component that the
6 Secretary determines to be necessary to re-
7 duce successfully the use by each affiliated
8 island of fossil fuels.

9 (2) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Not later than
10 1 year after the date on which the Secretary estab-
11 lishes the team and biannually thereafter, the team
12 shall submit to the Secretary a report that contains
13 a description of the progress of each affiliated island
14 in—

15 (A) implementing the Action Plan of the
16 affiliated island developed under paragraph
17 (1)(A); and

18 (B) reducing the reliance of the affiliated
19 island on fossil fuels.

20 (d) USE OF REGIONAL UTILITY ORGANIZATIONS.—
21 To provide expertise to affiliated islands to assist the af-
22 filiated islands in meeting the purposes of this section, the
23 Secretary shall consider—

24 (1) including regional utility organizations in
25 the establishment of the team; and

1 (2) providing assistance through regional utility
2 organizations.

3 (e) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later
4 than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary re-
5 ceives a report submitted by the team under subsection
6 (c)(2), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate com-
7 mittees of Congress a report that contains a summary of
8 the report of the team.

9 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
10 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
11 essary to carry out this section.

