



H.R. 1119 — Satisfying Energy Needs and Saving the Environment Act (Rep. Rothfus, R-PA)

CONTACT: [Nicholas Rodman](#), 202-226-8576

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on March 8, 2018, subject to a [closed rule](#).

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1119](#) would direct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide a less stringent hydrogen chloride and sulfur dioxide emissions standard for coal refuse-fired plants.

COST:

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) [estimates](#) that the costs of modifying existing regulations to comply with H.R. 1119 would be minimal and would not have a significant effect on the agency's workload or spending. Enacting H.R. 1119 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1119 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 1119 would ease emission requirements for hydrogen chloride and sulfur dioxide from electric utility steam generating units. The bill authorize the EPA to allow the operator of a coal refuse electric utility steam generating unit to comply with emissions standard for hydrogen chloride and sulfur dioxide specified in the bill, that are less stringent than the [Mercury and Air Toxics Standards for Power Plants](#) (MATS).

The House report (H. Rept. 115-514) accompanying H.R. 1119 can be found [here](#). H.R. 1119 is similar to H.R. 3797, passed in the 114th Congress by on March 15, 2016 by the yeas and nays: [231 - 183](#). However, H.R. 1119 omitted H.R. 3797's provision related to the EPA's Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR). The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 3797 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1119 was introduced on February 16, 2017, and was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. On [December 6, 2017](#), the bill was ordered to be reported (amended) by the yeas and nays: 31 – 23.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: “Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, “[t]o regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes...”

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*