

Reducing the Cost of Energy Storage Act of 2017 Summary

With aging infrastructure and a changing economic climate, states are looking for new ways to balance the grid. But some energy technologies that could help—like energy storage—are still prohibitively expensive for most private companies to develop and deploy at scale, let alone to see a return on investment.

The Reducing the Cost of Energy Storage Act would establish a broad, tech-neutral program at the Department of Energy (DOE) to lower the cost of energy storage – **by 80%**. The bill would authorize research, development, and demonstration of large-scale and distributed storage, electric vehicle storage, and responsible battery lifecycle management. The bill is unique due to its broad “from-generation-to-consumption” focus, while public accountability requirements and annual reports to Congress will help the DOE maintain its focus.

This legislation will:

- Provide the Department of Energy with \$3.25 billion over 10 years to reduce the cost of energy storage across the electricity grid through research, development and demonstration projects.
- Direct the DOE to create an initiative that supports the development of large-scale distributed storage, transportation electrification, and responsible battery lifecycle management.
- Direct the DOE to focus on underdeveloped opportunities that are potentially transformative for the electricity grid, develop cost targets for energy storage across all types of energy storage technology and set a goal to reduce the cost of energy storage by 80 percent.
- Direct the DOE to submit to Congress within one year of the bill’s enactment a plan for organizing an energy storage-focused initiative within existing DOE programs, and report to Congress annually on the initiative’s progress.
- Protect the privacy of individuals and businesses and their respective sensitive data by prohibiting any federal entity from requesting personally identifiable data collected as a result of this legislation.