



ENVIRONMENTAL ENTREPRENEURS®

The Independent Business Voice for the Environment

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www.e2.org

Dear Senator Shelby;

On behalf of the membership of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), I am writing to urge you to support efforts to remove Sections 313 and 2823 of the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act so that the Department of Defense can continue its critical work to develop low-carbon, renewable alternative fuels and meet its energy security goals.

Earlier this year, members of E2 from across the country signed onto the attached letter urging the Senate Armed Services Committee to support the Department of Defense's energy security initiatives. Specifically, the letter urged the Committee to support the military's advanced biofuel programs as these initiatives improve operational effectiveness, save lives, and save money. They also provide an important catalyst for the development of American clean energy technologies, improving our energy security, creating jobs and strengthening the economy.

Our members were disappointed that the committee added two provisions to hinder the military's biofuel programs. Sections 313 and 2823 of the bill would prevent the military from being able to develop the fuels it has decided it needs based on operational and strategic objectives, as well as denying it the authority to help those fuel sources reach the necessary scale to significantly reduce future costs.

Beyond the obvious national security benefits, these initiatives are already stimulating innovation and investment by the private sector which have great benefits for the economy. With the military as a customer, these emerging technologies can reach commercialization and will translate to civilian applications more quickly, providing cost savings and benefits to American businesses and consumers while creating jobs.

Recently, E2 commissioned a study to examine what the economic benefits of the military's biofuels programs will be and found some impressive results. [According to the report:](#)

- Between \$9.6 billion and \$19.8 billion of economic activity could be generated by 2020 if the DoD is allowed to meet its previously announced biofuel goals.
- Between 14,000-17,000 new jobs could be created by 2020. If measured on a job-year basis, the total number of jobs created would be more than double that amount.
- Of these jobs, more than 3,000 will be agricultural jobs from biomass production, and about 1,200 will be in biorefinery operation. An additional 10,000 jobs will be created from biorefinery construction.

- These economic and job impacts will be broadly distributed geographically, with the greatest benefits to states that create the strongest incentives for biorefineries.
- In order to meet the military's cost and volume targets, advanced biofuel companies are leveraging \$3.4 billion of private capital invested since 2007 to build new commercial facilities.
- Military demand is helping to shape the early market and scale the advanced biofuel industry, which could help the commercial aviation industry and other industries to meet their hopes and plans to expand their use of biofuel.

Clearly, these programs are a win-win for both the military and the civilian economy. Once again, on behalf of E2's membership, I urge you to support efforts to remove Sections 313 and 2823 and allow these critical programs to develop low-carbon, renewable alternative fuels to continue.

Sincerely,

Nicole Lederer
Co-Founder, Environmental Entrepreneurs