

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2774**OFFERED BY MS. GIFFORDS OF ARIZONA**

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 5. SOLAR ENERGY CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND**
2 **CERTIFICATION GRANTS.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall establish
4 in the Office of Solar Energy Technologies a competitive
5 grant program to create and strengthen solar industry
6 workforce training and internship programs in installa-
7 tion, operation, and maintenance of solar energy products.
8 The goal of this program is to ensure a supply of well-
9 trained individuals to support the expansion of the solar
10 energy industry.

11 (b) **AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**—Grant funds may be
12 used to support the following activities:

13 (1) Creation and development of a solar energy
14 curriculum appropriate for the local educational, en-
15 trepreneurial, and environmental conditions.

16 (2) Support of certification programs, such as
17 the North American Board of Certified Energy
18 Practitioners, for individual solar energy system in-
19 stallers, instructors, and training programs.

1 (3) Internship programs that provide hands-on
2 participation by students in commercial applications.

3 (4) Activities required to obtain certification of
4 training programs and facilities by the Institute of
5 Sustainable Power or an equivalent industry-accept-
6 ed quality-control certification program.

7 (5) Incorporation of solar-specific learning mod-
8 ules into traditional occupational training and in-
9 ternship programs for construction-related trades.

10 (6) The purchase of equipment necessary to
11 carry out activities under this section.

12 (7) Support of programs that provide guidance
13 and updates to solar energy curriculum instructors.

14 (c) ADMINISTRATION OF GRANTS.—Grants may be
15 awarded under this section for up to 3 years. The Sec-
16 retary shall award grants to ensure sufficient geographic
17 distribution of training programs nationally. Grants shall
18 only be awarded for programs certified by the Institute
19 of Sustainable Power or an equivalent industry-accepted
20 quality-control certification institution, or for new and
21 growing programs with a credible path to certification.

22 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
23 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for car-
24 rying out this section \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal
25 years 2008 through 2012.