

House Passes Eshoo Computer Server Energy Efficiency Bill

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted H.R. 5646, legislation sponsored by Rep. Anna G. Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, calling for additional research to reduce energy costs and electricity consumption by computer servers and data centers. H.R. 5646 passed by a vote of 417 to 4.

“The cumulative energy cost for servers and data centers in the U.S. is approximately \$3.3 billion annually, and studies have shown energy efficient servers can save up to 80 percent in electricity and cooling costs,” said Rep. Eshoo. “The energy burden of these facilities will continue to grow rapidly, so it’s critical for government, industry, and consumers to be able to identify the most efficient technology to meet their needs.”

The U.S. server market is expected to grow from 2.8 million units in 2005 to 4.9 million units in 2009. This growth will result in increased energy demand resulting in soaring energy costs as companies deploy greater numbers of servers, consuming more power and requiring more energy to cool.

The bill cosponsored by Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Mich., directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify the potential energy and cost savings to the federal government and private business with the purchase of energy efficient servers, and includes a sense of Congress that it is in the best interests of the United States for purchasers of computer servers to give high priority to energy efficiency.

H.R. 5646 now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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