BAN RUSSIAN ENERGY IMPORTS ACT

Senators Joe Manchin, III (D-West Virginia) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska)


Vladimir Putin has used energy as a weapon of war. Russia’s actions demand a fundamental rethinking of American national security and our national and international energy policy, which currently support the Russian Federation by allowing the purchase and import of their energy resources. The United States imported an average of 670,000 barrels of oil and petroleum products per day in 2021, with a high of 848,000 barrels per day in June 2021, and imports up 24% in 2021 over 2020. The U.S. has also imported Russian liquefied natural gas (LNG) and coal despite having some of the largest reserves of these resources in our backyard. This puts our national security at risk and supports Putin’s ability to stay in power, and these imports must stop immediately.

The Ban Russian Energy Imports Act is a bipartisan bill to prohibit importation of Russian crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, LNG, and coal into the United States.

Specifically, the bill:

- Declares a national emergency specifically with respect to the threat to our national security, foreign policy, and economy that exists as a result of Russian aggression against Ukraine and directs the President to prohibit imports of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, LNG, and coal from Russia.
- The President has had the authority to take these actions since 1917; this legislation does not grant additional authority. This approach is modeled on the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.
- The ban would be in place during the national emergency and either the President or Congress would be able to terminate the emergency and the import ban.
- The bill exempts product that is already loaded or in transit at the time of enactment.