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Nuclear energy bill introduced in Senate March 2, 2017

A bipartisan group of senators introduced the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act (S.512) on March 2. The bill aims to modernize nuclear energy regulations and promote innovation in the nuclear sector.

S.512 focuses on reforming the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) budget and fee programs, streamlining the licensing process for advanced nuclear technology, and improving the efficiency of uranium recovery licensing and regulation. The bill establishes transparency and accountability measures related to the NRC's fee calculations, and limits the amount the NRC may charge in fees. Approximately 90 percent of the NRC's budget comes from these charges to its applicants and license holders. The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works reviewed S.512 and reported to the full Senate chamber for further consideration without amendment on March 22.

Source: Congress.gov