

Union Calendar No. 295

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2486

[Report No. 107-495]

To authorize the National Weather Service to conduct research and development, training, and outreach activities relating to tropical cyclone inland forecasting improvement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2001

Mr. ETHERIDGE (for himself, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. HOFFEL, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

JUNE 5, 2002

Additional sponsors: Mr. FROST, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ORTIZ, Ms. HART, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. EHLERS

JUNE 5, 2002

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 12, 2001]

A BILL

To authorize the National Weather Service to conduct research and development, training, and outreach activities

relating to tropical cyclone inland forecasting improvement, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Inland Flood Fore-*
5 *casting and Warning System Act of 2002”.*

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

7 *The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-*
8 *tion, through the United States Weather Research Program,*
9 *shall—*

10 *(1) improve the capability to accurately forecast*
11 *inland flooding (including inland flooding influenced*
12 *by coastal and ocean storms) through research and*
13 *modeling;*

14 *(2) develop, test, and deploy a new flood warn-*
15 *ing index that will give the public and emergency*
16 *management officials fuller, clearer, and more accu-*
17 *rate information about the risks and dangers posed by*
18 *expected floods;*

19 *(3) train emergency management officials, Na-*
20 *tional Weather Service personnel, meteorologists, and*
21 *others as appropriate regarding improved forecasting*
22 *techniques for inland flooding, risk management tech-*
23 *niques, and use of the inland flood warning index de-*
24 *veloped under paragraph (2); and*

1 (4) *conduct outreach and education activities for*
2 *local meteorologists and the public regarding the dan-*
3 *gers and risks associated with inland flooding and the*
4 *use and understanding of the inland flood warning*
5 *index developed under paragraph (2).*

6 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 *There are authorized to be appropriated to the Na-*
8 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for car-*
9 *rying out this Act \$1,150,000 for each of the fiscal years*
10 *2003 through 2007. Of the amounts authorized under this*
11 *section, \$250,000 for each fiscal year shall be available for*
12 *competitive merit-reviewed grants to institutions of higher*
13 *education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Edu-*
14 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) to develop models that*
15 *can improve the ability to forecast the coastal and estuary-*
16 *inland flooding that is influenced by tropical cyclones. The*
17 *models should incorporate the interaction of such factors as*
18 *storm surges, soil saturation, and other relevant phe-*
19 *nomena.*

20 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

21 *Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment*
22 *of this Act, and annually thereafter through fiscal year*
23 *2007, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-*
24 *tion shall transmit to the Committee on Science of the*
25 *House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,*

- 1 *Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on its*
- 2 *activities under this Act and the success and acceptance of*
- 3 *the inland flood warning index developed under section 2(2)*
- 4 *by the public and emergency management professionals.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to authorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, through the United States Weather Research Program, to conduct research and development, training, and outreach activities relating to inland flood forecasting improvement, and for other purposes.”.

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