

Public Law 113–86
113th Congress

An Act

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System.

Mar. 6, 2014

[H.R. 2431]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Integrated Drought
Information System Reauthorization Act of 2014”.

National
Integrated
Drought
Information
System
Reauthorization
Act of 2014.
15 USC 311 note.

SEC. 2. NIDIS PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.

Section 3 of the National Integrated Drought Information
System Act of 2006 (15 U.S.C. 313d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting before the period at
the end the following: “to better inform and provide for more
timely decisionmaking to reduce drought related impacts and
costs”;

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) **SYSTEM FUNCTIONS.**—The National Integrated Drought
Information System shall—

“(1) provide an effective drought early warning system
that—

“(A) collects and integrates information on the key
indicators of drought and drought impacts in order to make
usable, reliable, and timely forecasts of drought, including
assessments of the severity of drought conditions and
impacts; and

“(B) provides such information, forecasts, and assess-
ments on both national and regional levels;

“(2) communicate drought forecasts, drought conditions,
and drought impacts on an ongoing basis to public and private
entities engaged in drought planning and preparedness,
including—

“(A) decisionmakers at the Federal, regional, State,
tribal, and local levels of government;

“(B) the private sector; and

“(C) the public;

“(3) provide timely data, information, and products that
reflect local, regional, and State differences in drought condi-
tions;

“(4) coordinate, and integrate as practicable, Federal
research and monitoring in support of a drought early warning
system;

“(5) build upon existing forecasting and assessment pro-
grams and partnerships, including through the designation of

one or more cooperative institutes to assist with National Integrated Drought Information System functions; and

“(6) continue ongoing research and monitoring activities related to drought, including research activities relating to length, severity, and impacts of drought and the role of extreme weather events and climate variability in drought.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2014, the Under Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that contains—

“(A) an analysis of the implementation of the National Integrated Drought Information System program, including how the information, forecasts, and assessments are utilized in drought policy planning and response activities;

“(B) specific plans for continued development of such program, including future milestones; and

“(C) an identification of research, monitoring, and forecasting needs to enhance the predictive capability of drought early warnings that include—

“(i) the length and severity of droughts;

“(ii) the contribution of weather events to reducing the severity or ending drought conditions; and

“(iii) regionally specific drought impacts.

“(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the report under paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall consult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal, and local government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector.”.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 4 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 313d note) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act \$13,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.”.

Approved March 6, 2014.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2431:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 113–348 (Comm. on Science, Space, and Technology).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 160 (2014):

Feb. 10, considered and passed House.

Feb. 25, considered and passed Senate.

