

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2431

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## AN ACT

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Integrated  
3 Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of  
4 2014”.

5 **SEC. 2. NIDIS PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.**

6 Section 3 of the National Integrated Drought Infor-  
7 mation System Act of 2006 (15 U.S.C. 313d) is amend-  
8 ed—

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

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

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

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

19 “(A) collects and integrates information on  
20 the key indicators of drought and drought im-  
21 pacts in order to make usable, reliable, and  
22 timely forecasts of drought, including assess-  
23 ments of the severity of drought conditions and  
24 impacts; and

1           “(B) provides such information, forecasts,  
2           and assessments on both national and regional  
3           levels;

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

8                   “(A) decisionmakers at the Federal, re-  
9                   gional, State, tribal, and local levels of govern-  
10                  ment;

11                   “(B) the private sector; and

12                   “(C) the public;

13           “(3) provide timely data, information, and  
14           products that reflect local, regional, and State dif-  
15           ferences in drought conditions;

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

19           “(5) build upon existing forecasting and assess-  
20           ment programs and partnerships, including through  
21           the designation of one or more cooperative institutes  
22           to assist with National Integrated Drought Informa-  
23           tion System functions; and

24           “(6) continue ongoing research and monitoring  
25           activities related to drought, including research ac-

1       tivities relating to length, severity, and impacts of  
2       drought and the role of extreme weather events and  
3       climate variability in drought.”; and

4               (3) by adding at the end the following:

5       “(e) REPORT.—

6               “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months  
7       after the date of enactment of the National Inte-  
8       grated Drought Information System Reauthorization  
9       Act of 2014, the Under Secretary shall transmit to  
10      the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of  
11      the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
12      Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-  
13      ate a report that contains—

14              “(A) an analysis of the implementation of  
15              the National Integrated Drought Information  
16              System program, including how the informa-  
17              tion, forecasts, and assessments are utilized in  
18              drought policy planning and response activities;

19              “(B) specific plans for continued develop-  
20              ment of such program, including future mile-  
21              stones; and

22              “(C) an identification of research, moni-  
23              toring, and forecasting needs to enhance the  
24              predictive capability of drought early warnings  
25              that include—

1                   “(i) the length and severity of  
2                   droughts;

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

6                   “(iii) regionally specific drought im-  
7                   pacts.

8                   “(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the report  
9                   under paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall con-  
10                  sult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal,  
11                  and local government agencies, research institutions,  
12                  and the private sector.”.

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

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

16 **“SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17                  “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
18                  this Act \$13,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through  
19                  2018.”.

                  Passed the House of Representatives February 10,  
2014.

                  Attest:

*Clerk.*

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