

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2164

To amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 18, 2019

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act.

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 “Water Resources Re-
5 search Amendments Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) CLARIFICATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—Sec-
3 tion 104(b)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of
4 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(b)(1)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “water-
6 related phenomena” and inserting “water re-
7 sources”; and

8 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
9 at the end and inserting “; and”.

10 (b) COMPLIANCE REPORT.—Section 104 of the
11 Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303)
12 is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(c) GRANTS.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the sums appro-
16 priated pursuant to subsection (f) of this section, the
17 Secretary shall make grants to each institute to be
18 matched on a basis of no less than 1 non-Federal
19 dollar for every 1 Federal dollar.

20 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of
21 each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the
22 Committee on Environment and Public Works of the
23 Senate, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate,
24 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
25 of the House of Representatives, and the Committee
26 on the Budget of the House of Representatives a re-

1 port regarding the compliance of each funding re-
2 cipient with this subsection for the immediately pre-
3 ceding fiscal year.”.

4 (c) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
5 PROGRAM.—Section 104 of the Water Resources Research
6 Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by striking
7 subsection (e) and inserting the following:

8 “(e) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
9 PROGRAM.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
11 duct a careful and detailed evaluation of each insti-
12 tute at least once every 5 years to determine—

13 “(A) the quality and relevance of the water
14 resources research of the institute;

15 “(B) the effectiveness of the institute at
16 producing measured results and applied water
17 supply research; and

18 “(C) whether the effectiveness of the insti-
19 tute as an institution for planning, conducting,
20 and arranging for research warrants continued
21 support under this section.

22 “(2) PROHIBITION ON FURTHER SUPPORT.—If,
23 as a result of an evaluation under paragraph (1), the
24 Secretary determines that an institute does not qual-
25 ify for further support under this section, no further

1 grants to the institute may be provided until the
2 qualifications of the institute are reestablished to the
3 satisfaction of the Secretary.”.

4 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
5 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984
6 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking
7 “\$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011”
8 and inserting “\$8,250,000 for each of fiscal years 2020
9 through 2023”.

10 (e) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHERE RE-
11 SEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE
12 NATURE.—Section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Re-
13 search Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended
14 in the first sentence by striking “\$6,000,000 for each of
15 fiscal years 2007 through 2011” and inserting
16 “\$1,750,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2023”.

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