

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4123

To modify the project for flood control, Yazoo Backwater Area, Yazoo Basin, Mississippi, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to make payments to local interests as compensation for certain reductions in local tax revenues.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To modify the project for flood control, Yazoo Backwater Area, Yazoo Basin, Mississippi, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to make payments to local interests as compensation for certain reductions in local tax revenues.

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 “Yazoo Tax Base Pro-
5 tection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROJECT MODIFICATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The project for flood control,
3 Yazoo Backwater Area, Yazoo Basin, Mississippi, author-
4 ized by section 3 of the Flood Control Act approved Au-
5 gust 18, 1941 (55 Stat. 642–643), is modified to author-
6 ize the Secretary of the Army to make annual payments,
7 during the term of the project, to local interests in the
8 project area as compensation for reductions in the ad valo-
9 rem tax revenues collected by the local interests that are
10 attributable to purchases of reforestation easements by the
11 Secretary for the project.

12 (b) AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—An annual payment
13 made to a local interest in a calendar year under sub-
14 section (a) shall equal—

15 (1) the amount of ad valorem tax revenues that
16 would have been collected by the local interest in the
17 calendar year if lands for which the Secretary has
18 purchased a reforestation easement for the project
19 had the same use that the lands had prior to the
20 purchase of the easement; less

21 (2) the amount of ad valorem tax revenues col-
22 lected by the local interest in the calendar year.

23 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
24 nitions apply:

25 (1) REFORESTATION EASEMENT.—The term
26 “reforestation easement” means an easement on

1 open agricultural land that restricts the future use
2 of the land to woodlands.

3 (2) PROJECT AREA.—The term “project area”
4 means land in the Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey,
5 Warren, Washington, and Yazoo counties, Mis-
6 sissippi, located at or below the 100-year frequency
7 flood elevation.

○