

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5923

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to eradicate non-native constrictor snakes from ecosystems in which they exist in sustainable populations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a grant program to eradicate non-native constrictor snakes from ecosystems in which they exist in sustainable populations, 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 “Stopping Non-Native
5 Animals from Killing Endangered Species Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 The purposes of this Act are—

1 (1) to eradicate non-native constrictor snakes
2 from ecosystems in which they exist in sustainable
3 populations; and

4 (2) to prevent non-native constrictor snakes
5 from establishing or expanding sustainable popu-
6 lations in ecosystems that can support such popu-
7 lations.

8 **SEC. 3. ERADICATION AND CONTROL PROGRAM.**

9 (a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—Subject to the availability
10 of appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior (in this
11 Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall establish a pro-
12 gram to award grants to organizations that operate or will
13 operate programs that use dogs that are trained to detect
14 non-native constrictor snakes in order to carry out the
15 purposes in section 2.

16 (b) APPLICATION.—Any organization seeking a grant
17 under this section shall submit an application to the Sec-
18 retary at such time and containing such information as
19 the Secretary may reasonably require, including a descrip-
20 tion of the program it operates or will operate to carry
21 out the purposes in section 2.

22 (c) COORDINATION.—In implementing the grant pro-
23 gram under this section, the Secretary shall coordinate
24 with—

1 (1) the chief executive of the State in which any
2 organization that receives a grant under this section
3 operates or will operate; and

4 (2) the head of any other appropriate entity,
5 such as the chairperson of the South Florida Eco-
6 system Restoration Task Force.

7 (d) COST SHARE.—

8 (1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
9 the costs of any program operated by an organiza-
10 tion that receives a grant under this section to carry
11 out the purposes in section 2 may not exceed 50 per-
12 cent of the total costs of the program.

13 (2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The non-Fed-
14 eral share of the costs of the program may include
15 in-kind contributions of materials or services.

16 (e) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Any organization
17 that receives a grant under this section may reserve not
18 more than 5 percent of the grant funds for administrative
19 expenses.

20 (f) REPORTS.—

21 (1) ORGANIZATION.—Any organization that re-
22 ceives a grant under this section shall submit a re-
23 port to the Secretary on such organization's
24 progress in achieving the purposes in section 2 at

1 such time and including such additional information
 2 as the Secretary may reasonably require.

3 (2) SECRETARY.—Not later than one year after
 4 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually
 5 thereafter through fiscal year 2017, the Secretary
 6 shall submit a report to Congress on the progress
 7 made by each organization receiving a grant under
 8 this section in achieving the purposes in section 2.

9 (g) NON-NATIVE CONSTRICTOR SNAKES DEFINED.—
 10 In this Act, the term “non-native constrictor snakes”
 11 means the following species:

12 (1) Any species listed in section 16.15(a) of
 13 title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

14 (2) *Python reticulatus* (reticulated python).

15 (3) *Eunectes murinus* (green anaconda).

16 (4) *Eunectes beniensis* (Beni or Bolivian ana-
 17 conda).

18 (5) *Eunectes deschauenseei* (DeSchauensee’s
 19 anaconda).

20 (6) *Boa constrictor*.

21 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

22 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
 23 retary to carry out this Act \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal
 24 years 2013 through 2016.

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