

Union Calendar No. 341

116TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 496

[Report No. 116–427]

To direct the Director of the United States Geological Survey to establish a program to map zones that are at greater risk of sinkhole formation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2019

Mr. SOTO (for himself, Mr. CRIST, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

JUNE 4, 2020

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To direct the Director of the United States Geological Survey
to establish a program to map zones that are at greater
risk of sinkhole formation, 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 “Sinkhole Mapping Act
5 of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. SINKHOLE HAZARD IDENTIFICATION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the United States
8 Geological Survey shall establish a program to—

9 (1) study the short-term and long-term mecha-
10 nisms that cause sinkholes, including extreme storm
11 events, prolonged droughts causing shifts in water
12 management practices, aquifer depletion, and other
13 major changes in water use; and

14 (2) develop maps that depict zones that are at
15 greater risk of sinkhole formation.

16 (b) REVIEW OF MAPS.—Once during each 5-year pe-
17 riod, or more often as the Director of the United States
18 Geological Survey determines is necessary, the Director
19 shall assess the need to revise and update the maps devel-
20 oped under this section.

21 (c) WEBSITE.—The Director of the United States
22 Geological Survey shall establish and maintain a public
23 website that displays the maps developed under this sec-
24 tion and other relevant information critical for use by com-
25 munity planners and emergency managers.

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