

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3912

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System Act
of 2006, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Mr. SHEEHY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information
System Act of 2006, 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 “NIDIS Reauthoriza-
5 tion Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION**
7 **SYSTEM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the National Inte-
9 grated Drought Information System Act of 2006 (15
10 U.S.C. 313d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “, through the National Weather Service and other appropriate weather and climate programs in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “and” after the semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) incorporates flash drought research and tools to enhance timely response;”;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking “improvements in seasonal precipitation and temperature, subseasonal precipitation and temperature, and low flow water prediction; and” and inserting “support improvements in subseasonal to seasonal precipitation and temperature, and low flow water prediction;”;

(C) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

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

1 tivities relating to the prediction, length, severity,
2 and impacts of drought and the role of weather
3 events and subseasonal to seasonal variability in
4 drought;

5 “(7) advance and deploy next-generation tech-
6 nologies related to drought, such as monitoring, pre-
7 paredness, and forecasting capabilities utilizing arti-
8 ficial intelligence, machine learning, and cloud tech-
9 nologies;

10 “(8) use observational networks, including the
11 National Weather Service cooperative observer pro-
12 gram and State or regional hydrological monitoring
13 projects;

14 “(9) refine drought indicators across multiple
15 spatial and temporal scales;

16 “(10) improve decision support products;

17 “(11) optimize data and resources from across
18 the Federal Government;

19 “(12) investigate and address data gaps, includ-
20 ing snowpack monitoring, space-based or in-situ soil
21 moisture monitoring, groundwater data, and data re-
22 lated to rapid intensification events; and

23 “(13) engage with, and leverage the resources
24 of, entities within the National Oceanic and Atmos-
25 pheric Administration in existence as of the date of

1 the enactment of the NIDIS Reauthorization Act of
 2 2026 to improve coordination of water monitoring,
 3 forecasting, and management.”;

4 (3) in subsection (c)—

5 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and”
 6 after the semicolon;

7 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking the pe-
 8 riod and inserting “; and”; and

9 (C) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(4) in partnership with the National Mesonet
 11 Program, establish memoranda of understanding to
 12 provide coordinated, high-quality data.”; and

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

14 “(g) MODELING UPDATE.—Not later than 1 year
 15 after the date of the enactment of the NIDIS Reauthoriza-
 16 tion Act of 2026, the Under Secretary, acting through the
 17 National Integrated Drought Information System and the
 18 National Weather Service, shall develop a plan to incor-
 19 porate existing drought products of the National Oceanic
 20 and Atmospheric Administration and improved dynamical
 21 and statistical forecast modeling tools into probabilistic
 22 forecasts.”.

23 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
 24 4 of the National Integrated Drought Information System

1 Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–430; 15 U.S.C. 313d note)

2 is amended to read as follows:

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

4 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5 this Act—

6 “(1) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2026.

7 “(2) \$15,500,000 for fiscal year 2027.

8 “(3) \$16,000,000 for fiscal year 2028.

9 “(4) \$16,500,000 for fiscal year 2029.

10 “(5) \$17,000,000 for fiscal year 2030.”.

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