

*Technology of the House of Representatives a report on the National Integrated Drought Information System.*

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the implementation of the National Integrated Drought Information System, including an assessment of how the information, forecasts, and assessments produced by such system are utilized in drought policy planning and response activities.

(B) Specific plans for continued development of the system, including future milestones.

(C) An identification of research, monitoring, and forecasting needs to enhance the predictive capability of drought early warnings that include—

(i) the length and severity of droughts;

(ii) the contribution of weather events to reducing the severity or ending drought conditions; and

(iii) regionally-specific drought impacts.

(D) A list of partners with whom the Under Secretary collaborates to implement the National Integrated Drought Information System.

(E) A description of the outreach activities conducted by the Under Secretary regarding the National Integrated Drought Information System.

(3) **CONSULTATION.**—In developing the report required by paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall consult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal, and local government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be considered, the Pryor amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the committee substitute, as amended, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2713) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To reduce the authorization of appropriations amount)

On page 9, line 2, strike “\$14,500,000” and insert “\$12,000,000”.

The committee-reported substitute amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 376), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 376

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

# SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Drought Information Act of 2013”.

## SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION SYSTEM.

(a) **SYSTEM AMENDMENTS.**—Section 3 of the National Integrated Drought Information System Act of 2006 (15 U.S.C. 313d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting “and continue to support” after “establish”; and

(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “to better inform and provide for more timely decisionmaking to reduce drought related impacts and costs”; and

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) **SYSTEM FUNCTIONS.**—The National Integrated Drought Information System shall—

“(1) provide an effective drought early warning system that—

“(A) collects and integrates information on the key indicators of drought and drought impacts, including water supplies and soil moisture, in order to make usable, reliable, and timely forecasts of drought, including assessments of the severity of drought conditions and impacts; and

“(B) provides such information, forecasts, and assessments on both national and regional levels;

“(2) communicate drought forecasts, drought conditions, and drought impacts on an ongoing basis to stakeholders and entities engaged in drought planning, preparedness, and management, including—

“(A) decisionmakers at the Federal, regional, State, tribal, and local levels of government;

“(B) the private sector; and

“(C) the public;

“(3) provide timely data, information, and products that reflect local, regional, and State differences in drought conditions;

“(4) coordinate, and integrate as practicable, Federal research and monitoring in support of a drought early warning system;

“(5) build upon existing Federal, State, regional, private, public, and academic forecasting and assessment programs and partnerships; and

“(6) continue ongoing research and monitoring activities related to drought, including research activities relating to length, severity, and impacts of drought and the role of extreme weather events and climate variability in drought.”.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Section 4 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 313d note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) \$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018.”.

(c) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 540 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on the National Integrated Drought Information System.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the implementation of the National Integrated Drought Information System, including an assessment of how the information, forecasts, and assessments produced by such system are utilized in drought policy planning and response activities.

(B) Specific plans for continued development of the system, including future milestones.

(C) An identification of research, monitoring, and forecasting needs to enhance the predictive capability of drought early warnings that include—

(i) the length and severity of droughts;

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(D) A list of partners with whom the Under Secretary collaborates to implement the National Integrated Drought Information System.

(E) A description of the outreach activities conducted by the Under Secretary regarding

the National Integrated Drought Information System.

(3) **CONSULTATION.**—In developing the report required by paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall consult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal, and local government agencies, research institutions, and the private sector.

## PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 340 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 340) expressing the sense of the Senate that all necessary measures should be taken to protect children in the United States from human trafficking, especially during the upcoming Super Bowl, an event around which many children are trafficked for sex.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 340) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of Tuesday, January 28, 2014, under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

## OBSERVING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF DAISY BATES

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 341 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 341) observing the 100th birthday of civil rights leader Daisy Bates and honoring her legacy as an American heroine.

Without objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 341) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of Wednesday, January 29, 2014, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

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MEASURE READ THE FIRST  
TIME—S. 1982

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I understand that S. 1982, introduced earlier today by Senator SANDERS, is at the desk and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1982) to improve the provision of medical services and benefits to veterans, and for other purposes.

Ms. WARREN. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will re-

ceive its second reading on the next legislative day.

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ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 4, 2014

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2642, the farm bill, with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; and that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m.

until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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PROGRAM

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, there will be a rollcall vote at approximately 2:35 p.m. on adoption of the farm bill conference report.

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ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.  
TOMORROW

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:56 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, February 4, at 10 a.m.