

## Union Calendar No.

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2431

[Report No. 113-]

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 19, 2013

Mr. HALL (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

DECEMBER --, 2013

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 19, 2013]

# **A BILL**

To reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System.

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 “National Integrated*  
5 *Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2013”.*

6 **SEC. 2. NIDIS PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.**

7 *Section 3 of the National Integrated Drought Informa-*  
8 *tion System Act of 2006 (15 U.S.C. 313d) is amended—*

9 *(1) in subsection (a), by inserting before the pe-*  
10 *riod at the end the following: “to better inform and*  
11 *provide for more timely decisionmaking to reduce*  
12 *drought related impacts and costs”;*

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

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

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

19 *“(A) collects and integrates information on*  
20 *the key indicators of drought and drought im-*  
21 *packs in order to make usable, reliable, and time-*  
22 *ly forecasts of drought, including assessments of*  
23 *the severity of drought conditions and impacts;*  
24 *and*

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

4           “(2) communicate drought forecasts, drought  
5           conditions, and drought impacts on an ongoing basis  
6           to public and private entities engaged in drought  
7           planning and preparedness, including—

8                   “(A) decisionmakers at the Federal, re-  
9                   gional, State, tribal, and local levels of govern-  
10                  ment;

11                   “(B) the private sector; and

12                   “(C) the public;

13           “(3) provide timely data, information, and prod-  
14           ucts that reflect local, regional, and State differences  
15           in drought conditions;

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

19           “(5) build upon existing forecasting and assess-  
20           ment programs and partnerships, including through  
21           the designation of one or more cooperative institutes  
22           to assist with National Integrated Drought Informa-  
23           tion System functions; and

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

1 *tivities relating to length, severity, and impacts of*  
2 *drought and the role of extreme weather events and*  
3 *climate variability in drought.”; and*

4 *(3) by adding at the end the following:*

5 *“(e) REPORT.—*

6 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months*  
7 *after the date of enactment of the National Integrated*  
8 *Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of*  
9 *2013, the Under Secretary shall transmit to the Com-*  
10 *mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the*  
11 *House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-*  
12 *merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a*  
13 *report that contains—*

14 *“(A) an analysis of the implementation of*  
15 *the National Integrated Drought Information*  
16 *System program, including how the information,*  
17 *forecasts, and assessments are utilized in drought*  
18 *policy planning and response activities;*

19 *“(B) specific plans for continued develop-*  
20 *ment of such program, including future mile-*  
21 *stones; and*

22 *“(C) an identification of research, moni-*  
23 *toring, and forecasting needs to enhance the pre-*  
24 *dictive capability of drought early warnings that*  
25 *include—*

1                   “(i) *the length and severity of*  
2                   *droughts;*

3                   “(ii) *the contribution of weather events*  
4                   *to reducing the severity or ending drought*  
5                   *conditions; and*

6                   “(iii) *regionally specific drought im-*  
7                   *pacts.*

8                   “(2) *CONSULTATION.—In developing the report*  
9                   *under paragraph (1), the Under Secretary shall con-*  
10                  *sult with relevant Federal, regional, State, tribal, and*  
11                  *local government agencies, research institutions, and*  
12                  *the private sector.”.*

13   **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14                  *Section 4 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 313d note) is amend-*  
15                  *ed to read as follows:*

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

17                  *“There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out*  
18                  *this Act \$13,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through*  
19                  *2018.”.*