



AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 2200

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

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by Mr. THUNE

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Integrated
5 Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of
6 2018”.

7 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION
8 SYSTEM PROGRAM.**

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

12 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “in
2 order to make usable, reliable, and timely fore-
3 casts of drought, including” and inserting “in-
4 cluding, precipitation, soil moisture, and evapo-
5 rative demand, in order to make usable, reli-
6 able, and timely forecasts of drought and”;

7 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “water-
8 shed,” after “regional,”;

9 (C) in paragraph (4)—

10 (i) by inserting “, through interagency
11 agreements” after “integrate”; and

12 (ii) by inserting “information” after
13 “warning”;

14 (D) by amending paragraph (5) to read as
15 follows:

16 “(5) utilize existing forecasting and assessment
17 programs and partnerships, including forecast com-
18 munication coordinators and cooperative institutes,
19 and improvements in seasonal, subseasonal, and low
20 flow water prediction; and”;

21 (E) in paragraph (6), by inserting “the
22 prediction,” after “relating to”;

23 (2) by redesignating subsections (e) through (e)
24 as subsections (d) through (f), respectively;

1 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(c) PARTNERSHIPS.—The National Integrated
4 Drought Information System may—

5 “(1) engage with the private sector to improve
6 drought monitoring, forecast, and communication if
7 the Under Secretary determines the partnership is
8 appropriate, cost-effective, and beneficial to the pub-
9 lic and decisionmakers described in subsection
10 (b)(2)(A);

11 “(2) facilitate the development of 1 or more
12 academic cooperative partnerships to assist with Na-
13 tional Integrated Drought Information System func-
14 tions; and

15 “(3) utilize and support, as appropriate, moni-
16 toring by citizen scientists, including by developing
17 best practices to facilitate maximum data integra-
18 tion.”;

19 (4) in subsection (d), as redesignated, by insert-
20 ing “and sustainment” after “development”; and

21 (5) by striking subsection (f), as redesignated,
22 and inserting the following:

23 “(f) SOIL MOISTURE.—Not later than 1 year after
24 the date of enactment of the National Integrated Drought
25 Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018, the

1 Under Secretary, acting through the National Integrated
2 Drought Information System, shall develop a strategy for
3 a national coordinated soil moisture monitoring network.”.

4 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
5 4 of the National Integrated Drought Information System
6 Act of 2006 (15 U.S.C. 313d note) is amended to read
7 as follows:

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

9 “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
10 this Act—

11 “(1) \$13,500,000 for fiscal year 2018;

12 “(2) \$13,750,000 for fiscal year 2019;

13 “(3) \$14,000,000 for fiscal year 2020;

14 “(4) \$14,250,000 for fiscal year 2021;

15 “(5) \$14,500,000 for fiscal year 2022; and

16 “(6) \$15,750,000 for fiscal year 2023.”.

17 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF WEATHER AND CLIMATE IN-**
18 **FORMATION IN AGRICULTURE.**

19 Section 1762 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (15
20 U.S.C. 8521) is amended—

21 (1) by amending subsection (j) to read as fol-
22 lows:

23 “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
24 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the activi-
25 ties under this section—

- 1 “(1) \$26,500,000 for fiscal year 2018;
- 2 “(2) \$27,000,000 for fiscal year 2019;
- 3 “(3) \$27,500,000 for fiscal year 2020;
- 4 “(4) \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 2021;
- 5 “(5) \$28,500,000 for fiscal year 2022; and
- 6 “(6) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2023.”; and
- 7 (2) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(k) DERIVATION OF FUNDS.—Amounts made avail-
9 able to carry out this section shall be derived from
10 amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the
11 National Weather Service.”.