

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3272

To reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 27, 2011

Mr. NEUGEBAUER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction
Program, 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 “National Windstorm
5 Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 203(1) of the National Windstorm Impact
8 Reduction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15702(1)) is amended
9 by striking “Director of the Office of Science and Tech-

1 nology Policy” and inserting “Director of the National In-
2 stitute of Standards and Technology”.

3 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION PRO-**
4 **GRAM.**

5 Section 204 of the National Windstorm Impact Re-
6 duction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15703) is amended—

7 (1) by striking subsections (a), (b), and (c) and
8 inserting the following:

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Na-
10 tional Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, the purpose
11 of which is to achieve major measurable reductions in the
12 losses of life and property from windstorms through a co-
13 ordinated Federal effort, in cooperation with other levels
14 of government, academia, and the private sector, aimed
15 at improving the understanding of windstorms and their
16 impacts and developing and encouraging the implementa-
17 tion of cost-effective mitigation measures to reduce those
18 impacts.

19 “(b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROGRAM AGENCIES.—

20 “(1) LEAD AGENCY.—The National Institute of
21 Standards and Technology shall have the primary
22 responsibility for planning and coordinating the Pro-
23 gram. In carrying out this paragraph, the Director
24 shall—

1 “(A) ensure that the Program includes the
2 necessary components to promote the imple-
3 mentation of windstorm risk reduction meas-
4 ures by Federal, State, and local governments,
5 national standards and model building code or-
6 ganizations, architects and engineers, and oth-
7 ers with a role in planning and constructing
8 buildings and lifelines;

9 “(B) support the development of perform-
10 ance-based engineering tools, and work with ap-
11 propriate groups to promote the commercial ap-
12 plication of such tools, including through wind-
13 related model building codes, voluntary stand-
14 ards, and construction best practices;

15 “(C) request the assistance of Federal
16 agencies other than the Program agencies, as
17 necessary to assist in carrying out this Act;

18 “(D) coordinate all Federal post-windstorm
19 investigations; and

20 “(E) when warranted by research or inves-
21 tigative findings, issue recommendations to as-
22 sist in informing the development of model
23 codes, and provide information to Congress on
24 the use of such recommendations.

1 “(2) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND
2 TECHNOLOGY.—In addition to the lead agency re-
3 sponsibilities described under paragraph (1), the Na-
4 tional Institute of Standards and Technology shall
5 be responsible for carrying out research and develop-
6 ment to improve model building codes, voluntary
7 standards, and best practices for the design, con-
8 struction, and retrofit of buildings, structures, and
9 lifelines.

10 “(3) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The
11 National Science Foundation shall support research
12 in engineering and the atmospheric sciences to im-
13 prove the understanding of the behavior of wind-
14 storms and their impact on buildings, structures,
15 and lifelines.

16 “(4) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
17 ADMINISTRATION.—The National Oceanic and At-
18 mospheric Administration shall support atmospheric
19 sciences research to improve the understanding of
20 the behavior of windstorms and their impact on
21 buildings, structures, and lifelines.

22 “(5) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
23 AGENCY.—The Federal Emergency Management
24 Agency shall support the development of risk assess-
25 ment tools and effective mitigation techniques, wind-

1 storm-related data collection and analysis, public
2 outreach, information dissemination, and implemen-
3 tation of mitigation measures consistent with the
4 Agency’s all-hazards approach.”;

5 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
6 section (c);

7 (3) by inserting after subsection (c), as so re-
8 designated, the following new subsection:

9 “(d) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON
10 WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION.—

11 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an
12 Interagency Coordinating Committee on Windstorm
13 Impact Reduction, chaired by the Director.

14 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—In addition to the chair,
15 the Committee shall be composed of—

16 “(A) the heads of—

17 “(i) the Federal Emergency Manage-
18 ment Agency;

19 “(ii) the National Oceanic and Atmos-
20 pheric Administration;

21 “(iii) the National Science Founda-
22 tion;

23 “(iv) the Office of Science and Tech-
24 nology Policy; and

1 “(v) the Office of Management and
2 Budget; and

3 “(B) the head of any other Federal agency
4 the chair considers appropriate.

5 “(3) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet
6 not less than 2 times a year at the call of the Direc-
7 tor of the National Institute of Standards and Tech-
8 nology.

9 “(4) GENERAL PURPOSE AND DUTIES.—The
10 Committee shall oversee the planning and coordina-
11 tion of the Program.

12 “(5) STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Committee shall
13 develop and submit to Congress, not later than one
14 year after the date of enactment of the National
15 Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of
16 2011, a Strategic Plan for the Program that in-
17 cludes—

18 “(A) prioritized goals for the Program that
19 will mitigate against the loss of life and prop-
20 erty from future windstorms;

21 “(B) short-term, mid-term, and long-term
22 research objectives to achieve those goals;

23 “(C) a description of the role of each Pro-
24 gram agency in achieving the prioritized goals;

1 “(D) the methods by which progress to-
2 wards the goals will be assessed; and

3 “(E) an explanation of how the Program
4 will foster the transfer of research results into
5 outcomes, such as improved model building
6 codes.

7 “(6) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 18
8 months after the date of enactment of the National
9 Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of
10 2011, the Committee shall submit to the Congress a
11 report on the progress of the Program that in-
12 cludes—

13 “(A) a description of the activities funded
14 under the Program, a description of how these
15 activities align with the prioritized goals and re-
16 search objectives established in the Strategic
17 Plan, and the budgets, per agency, for these ac-
18 tivities;

19 “(B) the outcomes achieved by the Pro-
20 gram for each of the goals identified in the
21 Strategic Plan;

22 “(C) a description of any recommendations
23 made to change existing building codes that
24 were the result of Program activities; and

1 “(D) a description of the extent to which
2 the Program has incorporated recommendations
3 from the Advisory Committee on Windstorm
4 Impact Reduction.

5 “(7) COORDINATED BUDGET.—The Committee
6 shall develop a coordinated budget for the Program,
7 which shall be submitted to the Congress at the time
8 of the President’s budget submission for each fiscal
9 year.”; and

10 (4) by striking subsections (e) and (f).

11 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WINDSTORM**
12 **IMPACT REDUCTION.**

13 Section 205 of the National Windstorm Impact Re-
14 duction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15704) is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 **“SEC. 205. NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WIND-**
17 **STORM IMPACT REDUCTION.**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National In-
19 stitute of Standards and Technology shall establish an Ad-
20 visory Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction, which
21 shall be composed of at least 7 members, none of whom
22 may be employees of the Federal Government, including
23 representatives of research and academic institutions, in-
24 dustry standards development organizations, emergency
25 management agencies, State and local government, and

1 business communities who are qualified to provide advice
2 on windstorm impact reduction and represent all related
3 scientific, architectural, and engineering disciplines. The
4 recommendations of the Advisory Committee shall be con-
5 sidered by Federal agencies in implementing the Program.

6 “(b) ASSESSMENTS.—The Advisory Committee on
7 Windstorm Impact Reduction shall offer assessments on—

8 “(1) trends and developments in the natural
9 and engineering sciences and practices of windstorm
10 impact mitigation;

11 “(2) the priorities of the Program’s Strategic
12 Plan;

13 “(3) the coordination of the Program; and

14 “(4) any revisions to the Program which may
15 be necessary.

16 “(c) COMPENSATION.—The members of the Advisory
17 Committee established under this section shall serve with-
18 out compensation.

19 “(d) REPORTS.—At least every 2 years, the Advisory
20 Committee shall report to the Director on the assessments
21 carried out under subsection (b) and its recommendations
22 for ways to improve the Program.

23 “(e) CHARTER.—Notwithstanding section 14(b)(2) of
24 the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App), the
25 Advisory Committee shall not be required to file a charter

1 subsequent to its initial charter, filed under section 9(c)
2 of such Act, before the termination date specified in sub-
3 section (f) of this section.

4 “(f) TERMINATION.—The Advisory Committee shall
5 terminate on September 30, 2014.”.

6 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 Section 207 of the National Windstorm Impact Re-
8 duction Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 15706) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 **“SEC. 207. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 “(a) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGEN-
12 CY.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Fed-
13 eral Emergency Management Agency for carrying out this
14 title—

15 “(1) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;

16 “(2) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

17 “(3) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2014.

18 “(b) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—There are
19 authorized to be appropriated to the National Science
20 Foundation for carrying out this title—

21 “(1) \$9,400,000 for fiscal year 2012;

22 “(2) \$9,400,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

23 “(3) \$9,400,000 for fiscal year 2014.

24 “(c) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND
25 TECHNOLOGY.—There are authorized to be appropriated

1 to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for
2 carrying out this title—

3 “(1) \$5,300,000 for fiscal year 2012;

4 “(2) \$5,300,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

5 “(3) \$5,300,000 for fiscal year 2014.

6 “(d) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN-
7 ISTRATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to
8 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for
9 carrying out this title—

10 “(1) \$2,700,000 for fiscal year 2012;

11 “(2) \$2,700,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

12 “(3) \$2,700,000 for fiscal year 2014.”.

○