

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4536

To study how the Great Salt Lake and other saline lakes are affected by drought and to require a feasibility study on drought solutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 14, 2022

Mr. ROMNEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To study how the Great Salt Lake and other saline lakes are affected by drought and to require a feasibility study on drought solutions, 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 “Great Salt Lake Recov-
5 ery Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means
9 the program established under section 3(a).

1 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of the Army.

3 **SEC. 3. GREAT SALT LAKE MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
6 carry out a program to monitor and assess the hydrology
7 of saline lake ecosystems in the Great Basin, including the
8 Great Salt Lake, to inform and support Federal and non-
9 Federal management and conservation activities to benefit
10 those ecosystems.

11 (b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate
12 implementation of the program with relevant—

- 13 (1) Federal and State agencies;
14 (2) Indian Tribes;
15 (3) local governments; and
16 (4) nonprofit organizations.

17 (c) CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND COOPERATIVE
18 AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary is authorized to enter into
19 contracts, grant agreements, and cooperative agreements
20 with institutions of higher education and with entities de-
21 scribed in subsection (b) to implement the program.

22 (d) UPDATE.—Not later than 1 year after the date
23 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to
24 Congress an update on the progress of the Secretary in
25 carrying out the program.

1 (e) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—In carrying out the
 2 program, the Secretary may use available studies, infor-
 3 mation, literature, or data on the Great Basin region pub-
 4 lished by relevant Federal, State, or local entities, includ-
 5 ing the United States Geological Survey.

6 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
 7 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
 8 \$10,000,000.

9 **SEC. 4. DROUGHT SOLUTIONS FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

10 The Secretary is authorized to investigate the feasi-
 11 bility of a project for ecosystem restoration and water sup-
 12 ply in the Great Salt Lake, which may include an identi-
 13 fication of—

14 (1) technology capabilities currently in practice
 15 or expected to be commercialized within the next 10
 16 years that can redirect water sources to drought-im-
 17 pacted saline lakes, or conserve and increase water
 18 supply and delivery, including—

19 (A) pipelines;

20 (B) coastal desalination plants; and

21 (C) canal reinforcement; and

22 (2) necessary permitting to redirect water
 23 sources across State borders.

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