

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2368

To authorize studies on water supply management and development.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 6, 2000

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

A BILL

To authorize studies on water supply management and
development.

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 “Water Resource Study
5 Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) water resources in the United States are
9 among the most plentiful in the world;

10 (2) for many years, the effective development
11 and use of water resources in the United States has

1 been the focus of a wide array of Federal policies
2 and programs;

3 (3) in recent years, unprecedented growth, mul-
4 tiple competing water uses, and growing public in-
5 terest in environmental protection have combined to
6 create an atmosphere of conflicting policy interests;

7 (4) large-scale water conflicts continue to
8 emerge between communities, States, and stake-
9 holder interests in the southeastern region of the
10 United States; and

11 (5) Federal support is needed to assess the util-
12 ity and effectiveness of current Federal policies and
13 programs as they relate to resolving State and local
14 water supply needs.

15 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

17 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief
19 of Engineers.

20 (2) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
21 of Tennessee.

22 **SEC. 4. STUDIES ON EMERGING WATER SUPPLY NEEDS.**

23 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall offer to pro-
24 vide assistance to the State to conduct the studies de-
25 scribed in this section.

1 (b) STUDIES.—As a condition of receiving assistance
2 under this section, not later than 1 year after the date
3 of enactment of this Act, in consultation with the Sec-
4 retary, the State shall—

5 (1) select a geographic area within the State
6 having consistent, emerging, water supply needs;
7 and

8 (2) conduct a study on the emerging water sup-
9 ply needs of the geographic area.

10 (c) ADMINISTRATION.—A study conducted under this
11 section shall—

12 (1) identify Federal and State resources, assist-
13 ance programs, regulations, and sources of funding
14 for water supply development and management that
15 are applicable to the geographic areas selected under
16 subsection (b)(1);

17 (2) identify potential weaknesses, redundancies,
18 and contradictions in those resources, assistance
19 programs, regulations, policies, and sources of fund-
20 ing;

21 (3) conduct a water resource inventory in the
22 geographic study area to determine, with respect to
23 the water supply needs of the area—

24 (A) projected demand;

25 (B) existing supplies and infrastructure;

1 (C) water resources that cannot be devel-
2 oped for water supplies due to regulatory or
3 technical barriers, including—

4 (i) special aquatic sites (as defined in
5 section 330.2 of title 33, Code of Federal
6 Regulations (or a successor regulation));
7 and

8 (ii) waters protected under any other
9 Federal or State law;

10 (D) water resources that can be developed
11 for water supplies, such as sites that have few,
12 if any, technical or regulatory barriers to devel-
13 opment;

14 (E) any water resources for which further
15 research or investigation, such as testing of
16 groundwater aquifers, is required to determine
17 the potential for water supply development for
18 the site;

19 (F) a description of the social, political, in-
20 stitutional, and economic dynamics and charac-
21 teristics of the geographic study area that may
22 impact the resolution of water supply needs;

23 (G) incentives for cooperation between
24 water districts, local governments, and State
25 governments, including methods that maximize

1 private sector participation in the water supply
2 development; and

3 (H) new water resource development tech-
4 nologies that merit further analysis and testing.

5 (d) LEAD AGENCY.—For each study under this sec-
6 tion, the Corps of Engineers—

7 (1) shall be the lead Federal agency; and

8 (2) shall consult with the State for guidance in
9 the development of the study.

10 (e) PARTICIPANTS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the Sec-
12 retary, the State shall select entities to participate in
13 the study under this section.

14 (2) TENNESSEE.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to entities
16 selected under paragraph (1), the United States
17 Geological Survey and the Tennessee Valley Au-
18 thority shall participate in the study in the
19 State.

20 (B) UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE.—The
21 University of Tennessee may elect to participate
22 in the study in the State.

23 (f) FUNDING.—The Federal share of each study
24 under this section shall be 100 percent.

1 (g) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the com-
2 pletion of a study under this section, the State completing
3 the study shall submit a report describing the findings of
4 the study to—

5 (1) the Committee on Resources of the House
6 of Representatives; and

7 (2) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
8 sources of the Senate.

9 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
10 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
11 \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2001.

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