

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6010

To ensure that flood level estimates in the Great Lakes basin represent true flood risk.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2006

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To ensure that flood level estimates in the Great Lakes basin represent true flood risk.

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 “Accurate Great Lakes
5 Flood Estimate Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. GREAT LAKES FLOOD LEVEL STUDY AND LIMITA-**
7 **TION OF FLOOD ELEVATION INCREASES.**

8 Section 1360 of the National Flood Insurance Act of
9 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4101) is amended by adding at the end
10 the following new subsection:

1 “(k) GREAT LAKES FLOOD LEVEL STUDIES.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the expira-
3 tion of the 90-day period beginning upon the com-
4 pletion by the International Joint Commission of
5 The Upper Great Lakes Study, and not later than
6 every 15 years after the expiration of such period,
7 the Director shall request the Corps of Engineers to
8 complete an updated analysis of flood levels for
9 areas surrounding the Great Lakes and their inter-
10 connecting channels to assist the Director in the de-
11 velopment of maps identifying 100- and 500-year
12 flood inundation areas for those areas.

13 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Director shall re-
14 quest the Corps of Engineers, in each determination
15 of flood levels pursuant to paragraph (1), to—

16 “(A) utilize base data from The Upper
17 Great Lakes Study conducted by the Inter-
18 national Joint Commission;

19 “(B) utilize base data from the Inter-
20 national Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River
21 Study conducted by the International Joint
22 Commission;

23 “(C) incorporate changes in the regulation
24 of Lake Ontario water levels and outflows;

1 “(D) incorporate changes in the regulation
2 of Lake Superior water levels and outflows; and

3 “(E) incorporate current and historical
4 factors other than recorded water levels that
5 may influence water levels and the determina-
6 tion of flood level estimates.

7 “(3) VALIDITY OF STUDY.—The Director shall
8 take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that
9 the flood levels determined pursuant to each request
10 under paragraph (1) are valid and appropriate for
11 use for purposes of the national flood insurance pro-
12 gram.

13 “(4) COMPLETION OF STUDY.—In making each
14 request under paragraph (1), the Director shall re-
15 quest that the Corps of Engineers complete the up-
16 dated flood level analysis not later than 24 months
17 after the request is made.

18 “(5) LIMITATION OF ELEVATION INCREASES.—
19 The Director shall not increase the base flood ele-
20 vation in any community in areas surrounding the
21 Great Lakes and their interconnecting channels until
22 the Corps of Engineers completes the first updated
23 flood level analysis pursuant to a request under
24 paragraph (1).

1 “(6) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this para-
2 graph, the following definitions shall apply:

3 “(A) The term ‘Great Lakes’ means Lake
4 Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake
5 Erie, and Lake Ontario.

6 “(B) The term ‘interconnecting channels’
7 means, with respect to the Great Lakes, the St.
8 Mary’s River, St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair,
9 the Detroit River, the Niagara River, and the
10 St. Lawrence River.”.

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