

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2104

To amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 14, 2012

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. INHOFE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act.

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 Resources Re-
5 search Amendments Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARA-
3 TIONS.—Section 102 of the Water Resources Research
4 Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10301) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through
6 (9) as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively;

7 (2) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated), by
8 striking “and” at the end; and

9 (3) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(7) additional research is required into in-
12 creasing the effectiveness and efficiency of new and
13 existing treatment works through alternative ap-
14 proaches, including—

15 “(A) nonstructural alternatives;

16 “(B) decentralized approaches;

17 “(C) water use efficiency; and

18 “(D) actions to reduce energy consumption
19 or extract energy from wastewater;”.

20 (b) CLARIFICATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—Sec-
21 tion 104(b)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of
22 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(b)(1)) is amended—

23 (1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “water-
24 related phenomena” and inserting “water re-
25 sources”; and

1 (2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period
2 at the end and inserting “; and”.

3 (c) COMPLIANCE REPORT.—Section 104(c) of the
4 Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C.
5 10303(c)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “From the” and inserting “(1)
7 IN GENERAL.—From the”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of
10 each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the
11 Committee on Environment and Public Works of the
12 Senate, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate,
13 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
14 of the House of Representatives, and the Committee
15 on the Budget of the House of Representatives a re-
16 port regarding the compliance of each funding re-
17 cipient with this subsection for the immediately pre-
18 ceding fiscal year.”.

19 (d) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
20 PROGRAM.—Section 104 of the Water Resources Research
21 Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by striking
22 subsection (e) and inserting the following:

23 “(e) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
24 PROGRAM.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-
2 duct a careful and detailed evaluation of each insti-
3 tute at least once every 5 years to determine—

4 “(A) the quality and relevance of the water
5 resources research of the institute;

6 “(B) the effectiveness of the institute at
7 producing measured results and applied water
8 supply research; and

9 “(C) whether the effectiveness of the insti-
10 tute as an institution for planning, conducting,
11 and arranging for research warrants continued
12 support under this section.

13 “(2) PROHIBITION ON FURTHER SUPPORT.—If,
14 as a result of an evaluation under paragraph (1), the
15 Secretary determines that an institute does not qual-
16 ify for further support under this section, no further
17 grants to the institute may be provided until the
18 qualifications of the institute are reestablished to the
19 satisfaction of the Secretary.”.

20 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
21 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984
22 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking
23 “\$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011”
24 and inserting “\$7,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
25 through 2017”.

1 (f) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHERE RE-
2 SEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE
3 NATURE.—Section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Re-
4 search Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended
5 by striking “\$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007
6 through 2011” and inserting “\$1,500,000 for each of fis-
7 cal years 2012 through 2017”.

○