

**Union Calendar No. 139**

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 2811**

**[Report No. 103-248]**

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**A BILL**

To authorize certain atmospheric, weather, and satellite programs and functions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

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SEPTEMBER 21, 1993

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 1993

Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

SEPTEMBER 21, 1993

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on July 30, 1993]

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**A BILL**

To authorize certain atmospheric, weather, and satellite programs and functions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       *This Act may be cited as the “National Oceanic and*  
3 *Atmospheric Administration Atmospheric and Satellite*  
4 *Program Authorization Act of 1993”.*

5       **TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF**  
6       **APPROPRIATIONS**

7 **SEC. 101. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.**

8       (a) *OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH.*—*There are author-*  
9 *ized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce (in*  
10 *this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) to enable the Na-*  
11 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry*  
12 *out the operations and research duties of the National*  
13 *Weather Service, \$473,256,000 for fiscal year 1994 and*  
14 *\$492,185,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties include mete-*  
15 *orological, hydrological, and oceanographic public*  
16 *warnings and forecasts, as well as applied research in sup-*  
17 *port of such warnings and forecasts.*

18       (b) *SYSTEMS ACQUISITION.*—*There are authorized to*  
19 *be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the National Oce-*  
20 *anic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out the pub-*  
21 *lic warning and forecast systems duties of the National*  
22 *Weather Service, \$76,299,000 for fiscal year 1994 and*  
23 *\$71,115,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties include the*  
24 *development, acquisition, and implementation of major*  
25 *public warning and forecast systems. None of the funds au-*  
26 *thorized under this subsection shall be used for the purposes*

1 *for which funds are authorized under section 102(b) of the*  
2 *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Author-*  
3 *ization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567). No funds may*  
4 *be expended for Next Generation Doppler Weather Radar*  
5 *(NEXRAD) until the requirements of paragraph (2)(A) or*  
6 *(B) of such section 102(b) have been fulfilled by the Sec-*  
7 *retary. None of the funds for NEXRAD authorized by such*  
8 *section 102(b)(2)(A) or (B) shall be expended, subject to an-*  
9 *ual review, for a particular NEXRAD installation site un-*  
10 *less such site appears on page D–10, D–11, or D–12 of the*  
11 *National Implementation Plan for Modernization of the*  
12 *National Weather Service, required under section 703 of the*  
13 *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Author-*  
14 *ization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567), for fiscal year*  
15 *1994, or unless such funds are to be used only for spare*  
16 *parts, not installation at a particular site.*

17 *(c) CONSTRUCTION OF WEATHER FORECAST OF-*  
18 *FICES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-*  
19 *retary to enable the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-*  
20 *ministration to carry out construction, repair, and modi-*  
21 *fication activities relating to new and existing weather fore-*  
22 *cast offices, \$62,784,000 for fiscal year 1994 and*  
23 *\$14,739,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such activities include*  
24 *planning, design, and land acquisition related to such*  
25 *offices.*

1 **SEC. 102. ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH.**

2 (a) *CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY RESEARCH.*—

3 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—There are authorized to be ap-  
4 propriated to the Secretary to enable the National  
5 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry  
6 out its climate and air quality research duties,  
7 \$105,922,000 for fiscal year 1994 and \$138,737,000  
8 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties include interannual  
9 and seasonal climate research and long-term climate  
10 and air quality research.

11 (2) *CLIMATE AND GLOBAL CHANGE.*—Of the  
12 sums authorized under paragraph (1), \$66,902,000  
13 for fiscal year 1994 and \$84,573,000 for fiscal year  
14 1995 are authorized to be appropriated for the pur-  
15 poses of studying climate and global change, includ-  
16 ing global observations, monitoring, and data and in-  
17 formation management relating to the study of  
18 changes in the Earth's climatic system, and fun-  
19 damental research on oceanic and atmospheric proc-  
20 esses critical to climate prediction and diagnostics.

21 (b) *ATMOSPHERIC PROGRAMS.*—There are authorized  
22 to be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the National  
23 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out its  
24 atmospheric research duties, \$42,103,000 for fiscal year  
25 1994 and \$52,980,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties in-  
26 clude research for developing improved prediction capabili-

1 *ties for atmospheric processes, as well as solar-terrestrial*  
2 *research and services.*

3 **SEC. 103. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA,**  
4 **AND INFORMATION SERVICE.**

5 (a) *SATELLITE OBSERVING SYSTEMS.*—*There are au-*  
6 *thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the*  
7 *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry*  
8 *out its satellite observing systems duties, \$206,383,000 for*  
9 *fiscal year 1994 and \$264,890,000 for fiscal year 1995, ex-*  
10 *cept that no funds may be expended for Geostationary Oper-*  
11 *ational Environmental Satellite until the requirements of*  
12 *section 105(d)(2) (A) or (B) of the National Oceanic and*  
13 *Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992*  
14 *(Public Law 102–567) have been fulfilled by the Secretary.*  
15 *Such duties include spacecraft procurement, launch, and*  
16 *associated ground station system changes involving polar*  
17 *orbiting and geostationary environmental satellites, as well*  
18 *as the operation of such satellites. None of the funds author-*  
19 *ized under this subsection shall be used for the purposes for*  
20 *which funds are authorized under section 105(d) of the Na-*  
21 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authoriza-*  
22 *tion Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567).*

23 (b) *ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND INFORMATION SERV-*  
24 *ICES.*—*There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-*  
25 *retary to enable the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-*

1 *ministration to carry out its environmental data and infor-*  
2 *mation services duties, \$34,068,000 for fiscal year 1994 and*  
3 *\$41,227,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties include cli-*  
4 *mate data services, geophysical data services, and environ-*  
5 *mental assessment and information services.*

6 **SEC. 104. PROGRAM SUPPORT.**

7 (a) *ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES.*—There are au-  
8 *thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for Administra-*  
9 *tion and Services, \$73,319,000 for fiscal year 1994 and*  
10 *\$76,252,000 for fiscal year 1995.*

11 (b) *AIRCRAFT SERVICES.*—There are authorized to be  
12 *appropriated to the Secretary for Aircraft Services and Air-*  
13 *craft Critical Safety and Instrumentation, \$9,495,000 for*  
14 *fiscal year 1994 and \$9,875,000 for fiscal year 1995.*

15 **SEC. 105. LIMITATION ON APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 *Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no*  
17 *funds are authorized to be appropriated for any fiscal year*  
18 *after fiscal year 1995 for carrying out the programs for*  
19 *which funds are authorized by this Act.*

20 **TITLE II—MISCELLANEOUS**  
21 **PROVISIONS**

22 **SEC. 201. STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RE-**  
23 **SEARCH LABORATORIES.**

24 (a) *ASSESSMENT.*—The Secretary shall conduct an as-  
25 *essment of the long-term role and mission of the Environ-*

1 *mental Research Laboratories of the National Oceanic and*  
2 *Atmospheric Administration and the relevance of the re-*  
3 *search conducted therein to issues of global and national*  
4 *importance. In conducting such assessment, the Secretary*  
5 *shall take into consideration—*

6           (1) *the adequacy of resources provided to support*  
7 *the missions of the Environmental Research Labora-*  
8 *tories;*

9           (2) *the capacity of the Environmental Research*  
10 *Laboratories to process and disseminate environ-*  
11 *mental data and information collected and processed,*  
12 *or expected to be collected and processed, by the Na-*  
13 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and*  
14 *other appropriate Federal departments and agencies;*

15           (3) *the mission of the Environment Research*  
16 *Laboratories to provide solar-terrestrial services to the*  
17 *Nation;*

18           (4) *the ability of the Environmental Research*  
19 *Laboratories to provide continued support for the*  
20 *modernization of weather services;*

21           (5) *the responsibilities of the Environmental Re-*  
22 *search Laboratories to monitor, assess, and predict*  
23 *changes in the Earth's climate;*

24           (6) *the capability of the Environmental Research*  
25 *Laboratories to integrate and interpret scientific data*

1 *in order to provide information useful to policy mak-*  
2 *ers for responding to national and global environ-*  
3 *mental concerns;*

4 *(7) the operational efficiency and effectiveness of*  
5 *the Environmental Research Laboratories; and*

6 *(8) any other issues that the Secretary may iden-*  
7 *tify.*

8 *(b) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later*  
9 *than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-*  
10 *retary shall develop and submit to the Committee on Com-*  
11 *merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the*  
12 *Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House*  
13 *of Representatives a comprehensive strategic plan, based on*  
14 *the assessment conducted under subsection (a), to modernize*  
15 *and improve the role and mission of the Environmental Re-*  
16 *search Laboratories of the National Oceanic and Atmos-*  
17 *pheric Administration. The assessment conducted under*  
18 *subsection (a) shall be submitted along with such plan.*

19 **SEC. 202. HYDROLOGICAL RESEARCH AND FLOOD FORE-**  
20 **CAST MODERNIZATION REPORT.**

21 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the*  
22 *date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation*  
23 *with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, shall*  
24 *prepare and submit to the Committee on Commerce,*  
25 *Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Commit-*

1 *tee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-*  
2 *resentatives a report identifying the actions required to im-*  
3 *prove the hydrological research programs and to modernize*  
4 *the Flood Forecasting System of the National Weather Serv-*  
5 *ice.*

6 (b) *REPORT CONTENTS.*—*The report required under*  
7 *subsection (a) shall include consideration of—*

8 (1) *current, planned, and potential technological*  
9 *improvements in the collection of observational*  
10 *hydrological data;*

11 (2) *use of additional satellite remote-sensing*  
12 *data and airborne surveys, including those systems*  
13 *operated by other Federal agencies, for hydrological*  
14 *data collection;*

15 (3) *improvements in data analysis and computer*  
16 *modeling in support of flood forecasts and pre-*  
17 *dictions; and*

18 (4) *full integration of the River Forecast Centers*  
19 *in the National Weather Service Modernization Plan.*

20 **SEC. 203. NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.**

21 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall provide notice*  
22 *to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-*  
23 *tation of the Senate and to the Committee on Science,*  
24 *Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, not*  
25 *less than 15 days before reprogramming funds available for*

1 *a program, project, or activity of the National Oceanic and*  
2 *Atmospheric Administration in an amount greater than the*  
3 *lesser of \$250,000 or 5 percent of the total funding of such*  
4 *program, project, or activity, if the reprogramming—*

5 *(1) augments an existing program, project, or*  
6 *activity;*

7 *(2) reduces by 5 percent or more (A) the funding*  
8 *for an existing program, project, or activity, or (B)*  
9 *the numbers of personnel therefor as approved by*  
10 *Congress; or*

11 *(3) results from any general savings from a re-*  
12 *duction in personnel which would result in a change*  
13 *in an existing program, project, or activity.*

14 *(b) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—The Secretary*  
15 *shall provide notice to the Committee on Commerce,*  
16 *Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Commit-*  
17 *tee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-*  
18 *resentatives not later than 15 days before any major reorga-*  
19 *nization of any program, project, or activity of the National*  
20 *Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

21 **SEC. 204. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

22 *It is the sense of Congress that any transfers of Na-*  
23 *tional Weather Service employees from field offices neces-*  
24 *sitated by the National Implementation Plan for Mod-*  
25 *ernization of the National Weather Service be carried out*

- 1 *in a manner that will not result in the degradation of serv-*
- 2 *ices in the service area of such field office.*