

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2811

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

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

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

1 **TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF**
2 **APPROPRIATIONS**

3 **SEC. 101. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.**

4 (a) OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH.—There are au-
5 thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce
6 (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) to enable the
7 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to
8 carry out the operations and research duties of the Na-
9 tional Weather Service, \$473,256,000 for fiscal year 1994
10 and \$492,185,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties in-
11 clude meteorological, hydrological, and oceanographic pub-
12 lic warnings and forecasts, as well as applied research in
13 support of such warnings and forecasts.

14 (b) SYSTEMS ACQUISITION.—There are authorized to
15 be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the National
16 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out the
17 public warning and forecast systems duties of the National
18 Weather Service, \$76,299,000 for fiscal year 1994 and
19 \$71,115,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties include the
20 development, acquisition, and implementation of major
21 public warning and forecast systems. Funds authorized
22 under this subsection shall be in addition to funds author-
23 ized under section 102(b) of the National Oceanic and At-
24 mospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992
25 (Public Law 102–567). No funds may be expended for

1 Next Generation Doppler Weather Radar (NEXRAD) ac-
2 quisition until the requirements of such section 102(b)
3 have been fulfilled by the Secretary. None of the funds
4 for NEXRAD authorized by such section 102(b) shall be
5 obligated unless the NEXRAD appears in the National
6 Implementation Plan for Modernization of the National
7 Weather Service, required under section 703 of the Na-
8 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Author-
9 ization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-567), for fiscal year
10 1994, or are to be used only for spare parts, not installa-
11 tion at a particular site.

12 (c) CONSTRUCTION OF NEXRAD FACILITIES.—
13 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
14 to enable the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-
15 tration to carry out construction, repair, and modification
16 activities relating to new and existing Next Generation
17 Doppler Weather Radar (NEXRAD) facilities at weather
18 forecast offices, \$62,784,000 for fiscal year 1994 and
19 \$20,580,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such activities include
20 planning, design, and land acquisition related to such
21 facilities.

22 **SEC. 102. ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH.**

23 (a) CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY RESEARCH.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
25 appropriated to the Secretary to enable the National

1 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry
2 out its climate and air quality research duties,
3 \$105,922,000 for fiscal year 1994 and
4 \$138,737,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties in-
5 clude interannual and seasonal climate research and
6 long-term climate and air quality research.

7 (2) CLIMATE AND GLOBAL CHANGE.—Of the
8 sums authorized under paragraph (1), \$66,902,000
9 for fiscal year 1994 and \$84,573,000 for fiscal year
10 1995 are authorized to be appropriated for the pur-
11 poses of studying climate and global change, includ-
12 ing global observations, monitoring, and data and in-
13 formation management relating to the study of
14 changes in the Earth's climatic system, and fun-
15 damental research on oceanic and atmospheric proc-
16 esses critical to climate prediction and diagnostics.

17 (b) ATMOSPHERIC PROGRAMS.—There are author-
18 ized to be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the Na-
19 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry
20 out its atmospheric research duties, \$42,103,000 for fiscal
21 year 1994 and \$52,980,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such du-
22 ties include research for developing improved prediction
23 capabilities for atmospheric processes, as well as solar-
24 terrestrial research and services.

1 **SEC. 103. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA,**
2 **AND INFORMATION SERVICE.**

3 (a) SATELLITE OBSERVING SYSTEMS.—There are
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to enable
5 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to
6 carry out its satellite observing systems duties,
7 \$206,383,000 for fiscal year 1994 and \$264,890,000 for
8 fiscal year 1995, except that no funds may be expended
9 for Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite ac-
10 quisition until the requirements of section 105(d) of the
11 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Au-
12 thorization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567) have been
13 fulfilled by the Secretary. Such duties include spacecraft
14 procurement, launch, and associated ground station sys-
15 tem changes involving polar orbiting and geostationary en-
16 vironmental satellites, as well as the operation of such sat-
17 ellites. Funds authorized under this subsection shall be in
18 addition to funds authorized under section 105(d) of the
19 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Au-
20 thorization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567).

21 (b) ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND INFORMATION
22 SERVICES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to
23 the Secretary to enable the National Oceanic and Atmos-
24 pheric Administration to carry out its environmental data
25 and information services duties, \$34,068,000 for fiscal
26 year 1994 and \$60,662,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such du-

1 ties include climate data services, geophysical data serv-
2 ices, and environmental assessment and information
3 services.

4 **SEC. 104. PROGRAM SUPPORT.**

5 (a) ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES.—There are au-
6 thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for Adminis-
7 tration and Services, \$73,319,000 for fiscal year 1994 and
8 \$76,252,000 for fiscal year 1995.

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

13 **TITLE II—MISCELLANEOUS**
14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 201. STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RE-**
16 **SEARCH LABORATORIES.**

17 (a) ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary shall conduct an
18 assessment of the adequacy of the resources provided for
19 the Environmental Research Laboratories of the National
20 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In conducting
21 such assessment, the Secretary shall take into consider-
22 ation—

23 (1) the capacity of the Environmental Research
24 Laboratories to process and disseminate environ-
25 mental data and information collected and proc-

1 essed, or expected to be collected and processed, by
2 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
3 tion and other appropriate Federal departments and
4 agencies;

5 (2) the mission of the Environment Research
6 Laboratories to provide solar-terrestrial services to
7 the Nation;

8 (3) the ability of the Environmental Research
9 Laboratories to provide continued support for the
10 modernization of weather services;

11 (4) the responsibilities of the Environmental
12 Research Laboratories to monitor, assess, and pre-
13 dict changes in the Earth's climate; and

14 (5) the capability of the Environmental Re-
15 search Laboratories to integrate and interpret sci-
16 entific data in order to provide information useful to
17 policy makers for responding to national and global
18 environmental concerns.

19 (b) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later
20 than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the
21 Secretary shall develop and submit to the Committee on
22 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
23 the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the
24 House of Representatives a comprehensive strategic plan,
25 based on the assessment conducted under subsection (a),

1 to modernize and improve the Environmental Research
2 Laboratories of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
3 Administration. The assessment conducted under sub-
4 section (a) shall be submitted along with such plan.

5 **SEC. 202. HYDROLOGICAL RESEARCH AND FLOOD FORE-**
6 **CAST MODERNIZATION REPORT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consulta-
9 tion with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies,
10 shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Commerce,
11 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
12 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
13 of Representatives a report identifying the actions re-
14 quired to improve the hydrological research programs and
15 to modernize the Flood Forecasting System of the Na-
16 tional Weather Service.

17 (b) REPORT CONTENTS.—The report required under
18 subsection (a) shall include consideration of—

19 (1) current, planned, and potential technological
20 improvements in the collection of observational
21 hydrological data;

22 (2) use of additional satellite remote-sensing
23 data and airborne surveys, including those systems
24 operated by other Federal agencies, for hydrological
25 data collection;

1 (3) improvements in data analysis and com-
2 puter modeling in support of flood forecasts and pre-
3 dictions; and

4 (4) full integration of the River Forecast Cen-
5 ters in the National Weather Service Modernization
6 Plan.

7 **SEC. 203. NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide notice
9 to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
10 tation of the Senate and to the Committee on Science,
11 Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives,
12 not less than 15 days before reprogramming funds avail-
13 able for a program, project, or activity of the National
14 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in an amount
15 greater than the lesser of \$250,000 or 5 percent of the
16 total funding of such program, project, or activity, if the
17 reprogramming—

18 (1) augments an existing program, project, or
19 activity;

20 (2) reduces by 5 percent or more (A) the fund-
21 ing for an existing program, project, or activity, or
22 (B) the numbers of personnel therefor as approved
23 by Congress; or

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

4 (b) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—The Secretary
5 shall provide notice to the Committee on Commerce,
6 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
7 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
8 of Representatives not later than 15 days before any
9 major reorganization of any program, project, or activity
10 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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