

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2608

To reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan (for himself and Mr. BAIRD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction
Program, 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 Earthquake
5 Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of
6 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 4 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act
3 of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) is amended by adding
4 at the end the following new paragraphs:

5 “(8) The term ‘Interagency Coordinating Com-
6 mittee’ means the Interagency Coordinating Com-
7 mittee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction estab-
8 lished under section 5(a).

9 “(9) The term ‘Advisory Committee’ means the
10 Advisory Committee established under section
11 5(a)(5).”.

12 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION**
13 **PROGRAM.**

14 Section 5 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act
15 of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704(b)) is amended—

16 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-
17 lows:

18 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established the
20 National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program.

21 “(2) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—The activities of
22 the Program shall be designed to—

23 “(A) develop effective measures for earth-
24 quake hazards reduction;

25 “(B) promote the adoption of earthquake
26 hazards reduction measures by Federal, State,

1 and local governments, national standards and
2 model code organizations, architects and engi-
3 neers, building owners, and others with a role
4 in planning and constructing buildings and life-
5 lines through—

6 “(i) grants, contracts, cooperative
7 agreements, and technical assistance;

8 “(ii) development of standards and
9 guidelines for earthquake hazards reduc-
10 tion for structures and lifelines; and

11 “(iii) development and maintenance of
12 a repository of information, including tech-
13 nical data, on seismic risk and hazards re-
14 duction; and

15 “(C) improve the understanding of earth-
16 quakes and their effects on buildings and life-
17 lines.

18 “(3) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
19 ON EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—There is established
21 an Interagency Coordinating Committee on
22 Earthquake Hazards Reduction chaired by the
23 Director of the National Institute of Standards
24 and Technology (referred to in this subsection
25 as the ‘Director’).

1 “(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The committee shall
2 be composed of the directors of—

3 “(i) the Federal Emergency Manage-
4 ment Agency;

5 “(ii) the United States Geological
6 Survey;

7 “(iii) the National Science Founda-
8 tion;

9 “(iv) the Office of Science and Tech-
10 nology Policy; and

11 “(v) the Office of Management and
12 Budget.

13 “(C) MEETINGS.—The Committee shall
14 meet not less than 3 times a year at the call of
15 the Director.

16 “(D) PURPOSE AND DUTIES.—The Inter-
17 agency Coordinating Committee shall oversee
18 the planning, management, and coordination of
19 the Program. The Interagency Coordinating
20 Committee shall—

21 “(i) develop, not later than 6 months
22 after the date of enactment of this Act,
23 and update periodically—

24 “(I) a strategic plan that estab-
25 lishes goals and priorities for the Pro-

1 gram activities described under sub-
2 section (a)(2); and

3 “(II) a detailed management plan
4 to implement such strategic plan; and

5 “(ii) develop a coordinated inter-
6 agency budget for the Program that will
7 ensure appropriate balance among the Pro-
8 gram activities described under subsection
9 (a)(2), and submit such budget to the Di-
10 rector of the Office of Management and
11 Budget at the time designated by that of-
12 fice for agencies to submit annual budgets.

13 “(4) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Interagency Co-
14 ordinating Committee shall transmit, at the time of
15 the President’s budget request to Congress, an an-
16 nual report to the Committee on Science and the
17 Committee on Resources of the House of Represent-
18 atives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science,
19 and Transportation of the Senate. Such report shall
20 include—

21 “(A) the Program budget for the current
22 fiscal year for each agency that participates in
23 the Program, and for each major goal estab-
24 lished for the Program activities under subpara-
25 graph (3)(A);

1 “(B) the proposed Program budget for the
2 next fiscal year for each agency that partici-
3 pates in the Program, and for each major goal
4 established for the Program activities under
5 subparagraph (3)(A);

6 “(C) a description of the activities and re-
7 sults of the Program during the previous year,
8 including an assessment of the effectiveness of
9 the Program in furthering the goals established
10 in the strategic plan under (3)(A);

11 “(D) a description of the extent to which
12 the Program has incorporated the recommenda-
13 tions of the Advisory Committee; and

14 “(E) a description of activities, including
15 budgets for the current fiscal year and proposed
16 budgets for the next fiscal year, that are carried
17 out by Program agencies and contribute to the
18 Program, but are not included in the Program.

19 “(5) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-
21 tablish an Advisory Committee on Earthquake
22 Hazards Reduction consisting of non-Federal
23 members, including representatives of research
24 and academic institutions, industry, and State
25 and local government, who are qualified to pro-

1 vide advice on earthquake hazards reduction.
2 The recommendations of the Advisory Com-
3 mittee shall be considered by Federal agencies
4 in implementing the Program.

5 “(B) ASSESSMENT.—The Advisory Com-
6 mittee shall assess—

7 “(i) trends and developments in the
8 science and engineering of earthquake haz-
9 ards reduction;

10 “(ii) effectiveness of the Program in
11 carrying out the activities under (a)(2);

12 “(iii) the need to revise the Program;
13 and

14 “(iv) the management, coordination,
15 implementation, and activities of the Pro-
16 gram.

17 “(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
18 after the date of enactment of this Act and at
19 least once every 2 years thereafter, the Advisory
20 Committee shall report to the Director on its
21 findings of the assessment carried out under
22 subparagraph (B) and its recommendations for
23 ways to improve the Program. In developing
24 recommendations, the Committee shall consider
25 the recommendations of the United States Geo-

1 logical Survey Scientific Earthquake Studies
2 Advisory Committee.

3 “(D) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT
4 APPLICATION.—Section 14 of the Federal Advi-
5 sory Committee Act (5 App. U.S.C. 14) shall
6 not apply to the Advisory Committee.”;

7 (2) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1)—

9 (i) by striking “Federal Emergency
10 Management Agency” and all that follows
11 through “of the Agency” and inserting
12 “National Institute of Standards and
13 Technology shall have the primary respon-
14 sibility for planning and coordinating the
15 Program. In carrying out this paragraph,
16 the Director of the Institute”;

17 (ii) by striking subparagraphs (B) and
18 (C) and redesignating subparagraphs (D)
19 and (E) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), re-
20 spectively;

21 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph
22 (A) the following:

23 “(B) support the development of perform-
24 ance-based seismic engineering tools, and work
25 with appropriate groups to promote the com-

1 mercial application of such tools, through earth-
2 quake-related building codes, standards, and
3 construction practices;” and

4 (iv) by striking “The principal official
5 carrying out the responsibilities described
6 in this paragraph shall be at a level no
7 lower than that of Associate Director.”;
8 and

9 (v) in subparagraph (D), as redesign-
10 nated by clause (ii), by striking “National
11 Science Foundation, the National Insti-
12 tutes of Standards and Technology” and
13 inserting “Federal Emergency Manage-
14 ment Agency, the National Science Foun-
15 dation”;

16 (B) in paragraph (2)(A) by striking “In
17 addition to the lead” and all that follows
18 through “Agency” and inserting “The Director
19 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency
20 (in this Act referred to as the ‘Agency’)”;

21 (C) in paragraph (3)—

22 (i) by inserting “and other activities”
23 after “shall conduct research”;

24 (ii) in subparagraphs (C) and (D), by
25 striking “the Agency” both places it ap-

1 pears and inserting “the Director of the
2 Federal Emergency Management Agency
3 and the Director of the National Institute
4 for Standards and Technology”;

5 (iii) in subparagraph (E), by striking
6 “establish, using existing facilities, a Cen-
7 ter for the International Exchange of
8 Earthquake Information” and inserting
9 “operate, using the National Earthquake
10 Information Center, a forum for the inter-
11 national exchange of earthquake informa-
12 tion”;

13 (iv) in subparagraph (F), by striking
14 “Network” and inserting “System”; and

15 (v) by inserting after subparagraph
16 (H) the following new subparagraph:

17 “(I) work with other Program agencies to
18 coordinate Program activities with similar
19 earthquake hazards reduction efforts in other
20 countries, to ensure that the Program benefits
21 from relevant information and advances in
22 those countries.”; and

23 (D) in paragraph (5), by striking “The
24 National” and inserting “In addition to the

1 lead agency responsibilities described under
2 paragraph (1), the National”; and

3 (3) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “Agency”
4 and inserting “Interagency Coordinating Com-
5 mittee”.

6 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 (a) Section 12 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction
8 Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7706) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (a), by adding after paragraph
10 (7) the following new paragraph:

11 “(8) There are authorized to be appropriated to
12 the Federal Emergency Management Agency for car-
13 rying out this Act \$18,500,000 for fiscal year 2004,
14 \$20,500,000 for fiscal year 2005, and \$22,500,000
15 for fiscal year 2006.”;

16 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the
17 following: “There are authorized to be appropriated
18 to the United States Geological Survey for carrying
19 out this Act \$80,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, of
20 which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made
21 available for completion of the Advanced National
22 Seismic Research and Monitoring System established
23 under section 13; \$83,500,000 for fiscal year 2005,
24 of which not less than \$30,000,000 shall be made
25 available for completion of the Advanced National

1 Seismic Research and Monitoring System established
2 under section 13; \$93,000,000 for fiscal year 2006,
3 of which not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made
4 available for completion of the Advanced National
5 Seismic Research and Monitoring System established
6 under section 13; such sums as may be necessary for
7 fiscal year 2007, of which not less than \$36,000,000
8 shall be made available for completion of the Ad-
9 vanced National Seismic Research and Monitoring
10 System established under section 13; and such sums
11 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008, of which
12 not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made available
13 for completion of the Advanced National Seismic Re-
14 search and Monitoring System established under
15 section 13.”;

16 (3) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the
17 following: “There are authorized to be appropriated
18 to the National Science Foundation for carrying out
19 this Act \$39,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
20 \$44,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and \$47,500,000
21 for fiscal year 2006.”; and

22 (4) in subsection (d) by adding at the end the
23 following: “There are authorized to be appropriated
24 to the National Institute of Standards and Tech-
25 nology for carrying out this Act \$8,000,000 for fis-

1 cal year 2004; \$9,600,000 for fiscal year 2005; and
2 \$12,500,000 for fiscal year 2006.”.

3 (b) Section 13 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction
4 Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7707) is amended by striking sub-
5 section (c).

6 (c) Section 14(b) of the Earthquake Hazards Reduc-
7 tion Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7708(b)) is amended by strik-
8 ing paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

9 “(4) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

10 “(5) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2005, all of
11 which shall be available for operations and mainte-
12 nance; and

13 “(6) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, all of
14 which shall be available for operations and mainte-
15 nance.”.

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