

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2781

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, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 2021

Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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, 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 “Water Resources Re-
5 search Amendments Act”.

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

2 (a) CLARIFICATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—Sec-
3 tion 104(b)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of
4 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(b)(1)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “water-
6 related phenomena” and inserting “water re-
7 sources”; and

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

10 (b) COMPLIANCE REPORTS.—Section 104(c) of the
11 Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C.
12 10303(c)) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(c) GRANTS.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts appro-
15 priated under subsection (f) and subject to sub-
16 section (e)(2), the Secretary shall—

17 “(A) make grants to institutes; and

18 “(B) require that grants under this para-
19 graph be matched on a basis of not less than
20 1 non-Federal dollar for every 1 Federal dollar.

21 “(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of
22 each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit a report
23 regarding the compliance of each institute that re-
24 ceived a grant under paragraph (1) for the imme-
25 diately preceding fiscal year to each of the following:

1 “(A) The Committee on Environment and
2 Public Works of the Senate.

3 “(B) The Committee on the Budget of the
4 Senate.

5 “(C) The Committee on Natural Resources
6 of the House of Representatives.

7 “(D) The Committee on Transportation
8 and Infrastructure of the House of Representa-
9 tives.

10 “(E) The Committee on the Budget of the
11 House of Representatives.”.

12 (c) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
13 PROGRAM.—Section 104(e) of the Water Resources Re-
14 search Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended to read
15 as follows:

16 “(e) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH
17 PROGRAM.—

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

21 “(A) the quality and relevance of the water
22 resources research of the institute;

23 “(B) the effectiveness of the institute at
24 producing measured results and applied water
25 supply research; and

1 “(C) whether the effectiveness of the insti-
2 tute as an institution for planning, conducting,
3 and arranging for research warrants continued
4 support under this section.

5 “(2) PROHIBITION ON FURTHER SUPPORT.—If,
6 as a result of an evaluation under paragraph (1), the
7 Secretary determines that an institute does not qual-
8 ify for further support under this section, no further
9 grants to the institute may be provided until the
10 qualifications of the institute are reestablished to the
11 satisfaction of the Secretary.”.

12 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
13 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984
14 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking
15 “\$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011”
16 and inserting “\$12,000,000 for each fiscal years 2022
17 through 2025”.

18 (e) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHERE RE-
19 SEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE
20 NATURE.—Section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Re-
21 search Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended
22 by striking “\$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007
23 through 2011” and inserting “\$6,000,000 for each of fis-
24 cal years 2022 through 2025”.

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