

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2924

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security to research and develop approaches to mitigate identified or potential negative effects of climate change on homeland security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 27, 2023

Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security to research and develop approaches to mitigate identified or potential negative effects of climate change on homeland security, 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 “Department of Home-
5 land Security Climate Change Research Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Secu-
3 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by
4 adding at the end the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 324. CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH AND DEVELOP-**
6 **MENT.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for Science
8 and Technology—

9 “(1) shall evaluate existing Federal research re-
10 garding approaches to mitigate identified or poten-
11 tial negative effects of climate change on homeland
12 security that includes consideration of—

13 “(A) the degree to which such identified or
14 potential negative effects affect preparedness
15 and emergency planning and policies, including
16 with respect to preparedness, response to, and
17 recovery from natural disasters;

18 “(B) the degree to which the Federal fund-
19 ing structure to respond to major disaster dec-
20 larations and emergency declarations is appro-
21 priately structured to address such identified or
22 potential negative effects; and

23 “(C) such other matters as the Under Sec-
24 retary determines appropriate; and

25 “(2) may, subject to the availability of appro-
26 priations, conduct research and development on ap-

1 proaches to mitigate such identified or potential neg-
2 ative effects of climate change on homeland security
3 in response to the evaluation under paragraph (1).

4 “(b) SCOPE.—The scope of the research and develop-
5 ment under subsection (a)(2)—

6 “(1) shall prioritize mitigating identified or po-
7 tential negative effects that impact the ability of the
8 Department to carry out operations; and

9 “(2) may address the matters described in sub-
10 section (a)(1).

11 “(c) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—In car-
12 rying out this section, the Under Secretary for Science and
13 Technology shall consult, and may, as appropriate, coordi-
14 nate, with—

15 “(1) the heads of—

16 “(A) other relevant Federal agencies and
17 departments; and

18 “(B) State, local, Tribal, and territorial
19 governments; and

20 “(2) relevant owners and operators of critical
21 infrastructure.

22 “(d) CLIMATE CHANGE DEFINED.—The term ‘cli-
23 mate change’ refers to detectable changes in one or more
24 climate system components that is directly or indirectly
25 attributed to—

1 “(1) human activity; and

2 “(2) altering the composition of the global at-
3 mosphere.”.

4 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.— Not later than one year
5 after the date of the enactment of this section and annu-
6 ally thereafter for three years, the Under Secretary for
7 Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland
8 Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Se-
9 curity and the Committee on Science, Space, and Tech-
10 nology of the House of Representatives and the Committee
11 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
12 Senate a report on any research and development activi-
13 ties carried out pursuant to section 324 of the Homeland
14 Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a).

15 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
16 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is
17 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
18 323 the following new item:

“Sec. 324. Climate change research and development.”.

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