

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6931

To amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to improve that Act,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2024

Mr. EDWARDS (for himself and Ms. KUSTER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to improve
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 “National Dam Safety
5 Program Amendment Act of 2024” or the “NDSP
6 Amendment Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PRO-**
8 **GRAM.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the National Dam
10 Safety Program Act (33 U.S.C. 467) is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraph (16) as para-
2 graph (17); and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (15) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(16) UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY.—The term
6 ‘underserved community’ means a community with a
7 population of less than 50,000 that has a median
8 household income of less than 80 percent of the
9 statewide median household income.”.

10 (b) REHABILITATION OF HIGH HAZARD POTENTIAL
11 DAMS.—Section 8A of the National Dam Safety Program
12 Act (33 U.S.C. 467f–2) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (c)(2), by striking subpara-
14 graph (C) and inserting the following:

15 “(C) GRANT ASSURANCE.—As part of a
16 grant agreement under subparagraph (B), the
17 Administrator shall require that each eligible
18 subrecipient to which the State awards a grant
19 under this section provides an assurance from
20 the dam owner, with respect to the dam to be
21 rehabilitated, that the dam owner will carry out
22 a plan for maintenance of the dam during the
23 expected life of the dam.”;

1 (2) in subsection (d)(2)(C), by striking “com-
2 mit” and inserting “for a project not including re-
3 moval, obtain a commitment from the dam owner”;

4 (3) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(e) FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLANS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receipt of
8 assistance under this section, an eligible subrecipient
9 shall demonstrate that a floodplain management
10 plan to reduce the impacts of future flood events
11 from a controlled or uncontrolled release from the
12 dam or management of water levels in the area im-
13 pacted by the dam—

14 “(A) for a removal—

15 “(i) is in place; and

16 “(ii) identifies areas that would be im-
17 pacted by the removal of the dam and in-
18 cludes a communication and outreach plan
19 for the project and the impact of the
20 project on the affected communities; or

21 “(B) for a project not including removal—

22 “(i) is in place; or

23 “(ii) will be—

24 “(I) developed not later than 2
25 years after the date of execution of a

1 project agreement for assistance
2 under this section; and

3 “(II) implemented not later than
4 2 years after the date of completion of
5 construction of the project.

6 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—In the case of a plan for
7 a removal, the Administrator may not impose any
8 additional requirements or conditions other than the
9 requirements in paragraph (1)(A).

10 “(3) INCLUSIONS.—A plan under paragraph
11 (1)(B) shall address—

12 “(A) potential measures, practices, and
13 policies to reduce loss of life, injuries, damage
14 to property and facilities, public expenditures,
15 and other adverse impacts of flooding in the
16 area protected or impacted by the dam;

17 “(B) plans for flood fighting and evacu-
18 ation; and

19 “(C) public education and awareness of
20 flood risks.”;

21 (4) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the
22 following:

23 “(f) PRIORITY SYSTEM.—The Administrator, in con-
24 sultation with the Board, shall develop a risk-based pri-
25 ority system for States to use in prioritizing multiple ap-

1 plications each year for eligible high hazard potential dams
2 for which grants may be made under this section.”; and

3 (5) in subsection (g)(1)—

4 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
5 “Any” and inserting “Except as provided in
6 subparagraph (C), any”; and

7 (B) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(C) UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES.—Sub-
9 paragraph (A) shall not apply to a project car-
10 ried out by or for the benefit of an underserved
11 community.”.

12 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
13 14 of the National Dam Safety Program Act (33 U.S.C.
14 467j) is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (a)—

16 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “2023”
17 and inserting “2028”; and

18 (B) in paragraph (2), by amending sub-
19 paragraph (B) to read as follows:

20 “(B) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ALLOCA-
21 TION.—The amount of funds allocated to a
22 State under this paragraph for a fiscal year
23 may not exceed the amount that is equal to 4
24 times the amount of funds committed by the

1 State to implement dam safety activities for
2 that fiscal year.”;

3 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “2023” and
4 inserting “2028”;

5 (3) in subsection (c), by striking “2023” and
6 inserting “2028”;

7 (4) in subsection (d), by striking “2023” and
8 inserting “2028”;

9 (5) in subsection (e), by striking “2023” and
10 inserting “2028”; and

11 (6) in subsection (f), by striking “2023” and
12 inserting “2028”.

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