

**Calendar No. 84**114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION**S. 653****[Report No. 114-48]**

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.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

MARCH 4, 2015

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

MAY 18, 2015

Reported by Mr. INHOFE, without amendment

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**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.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Water Resources Re-  
3 search Amendments Act of 2015”.

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

5 (a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND DECLARA-  
6 TIONS.—Section 102 of the Water Resources Research  
7 Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10301) is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (7) through  
9 (9) as paragraphs (8) through (10), respectively;

10 (2) in paragraph (8) (as so redesignated), by  
11 striking “and” at the end; and

12 (3) by inserting after paragraph (6) the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(7) additional research is required into in-  
15 creasing the effectiveness and efficiency of new and  
16 existing treatment works through alternative ap-  
17 proaches, including—

18 “(A) nonstructural alternatives;

19 “(B) decentralized approaches;

20 “(C) energy use efficiency;

21 “(D) water use efficiency; and

22 “(E) actions to extract energy from waste-  
23 water;”.

24 (b) CLARIFICATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—Sec-  
25 tion 104(b)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of  
26 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(b)(1)) is amended—

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

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

6           (c) COMPLIANCE REPORT.—Section 104(c) of the  
7     Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C.  
8     10303(c)) is amended—

9           (1) by striking “(c) From the” and inserting  
10     the following:

11     “(c) GRANTS.—

12           “(1) IN GENERAL.—From the”; and

13           (2) by adding at the end the following:

14           “(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of  
15     each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the  
16     Committee on Environment and Public Works of the  
17     Senate, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate,  
18     the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
19     of the House of Representatives, and the Committee  
20     on the Budget of the House of Representatives a re-  
21     port regarding the compliance of each funding re-  
22     cipient with this subsection for the immediately pre-  
23     ceding fiscal year.”.

24           (d) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH  
25     PROGRAM.—Section 104 of the Water Resources Research

1 Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by striking  
2 subsection (e) and inserting the following:

3 “(e) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH  
4 PROGRAM.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall con-  
6 duct a careful and detailed evaluation of each insti-  
7 tute at least once every 3 years to determine—

8 “(A) the quality and relevance of the water  
9 resources research of the institute;

10 “(B) the effectiveness of the institute at  
11 producing measured results and applied water  
12 supply research; and

13 “(C) whether the effectiveness of the insti-  
14 tute as an institution for planning, conducting,  
15 and arranging for research warrants continued  
16 support under this section.

17 “(2) PROHIBITION ON FURTHER SUPPORT.—If,  
18 as a result of an evaluation under paragraph (1), the  
19 Secretary determines that an institute does not qual-  
20 ify for further support under this section, no further  
21 grants to the institute may be provided until the  
22 qualifications of the institute are reestablished to the  
23 satisfaction of the Secretary.”.

24 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
25 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984

1 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking  
2 “\$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011”  
3 and inserting “\$7,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2015  
4 through 2020”.

5 (f) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHERE RE-  
6 SEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE  
7 NATURE.—Section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Re-  
8 search Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended  
9 in the first sentence by striking “\$6,000,000 for each of  
10 fiscal years 2007 through 2011” and inserting  
11 “\$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2020”.

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1<sup>ST</sup> Session

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