

Union Calendar No. 33

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1145

[Report No. 111-76]

To implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee introduced the following bill; which was referred
to the Committee on Science and Technology

APRIL 21, 2009

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 24, 2009]

A BILL

To implement a National Water Research and Development
Initiative, 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 Water Research*
5 *and Development Initiative Act of 2009”.*

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**
2 **INITIATIVE.**

3 (a) *INITIATIVE AND PURPOSE.*—*The President shall*
4 *implement a National Water Research and Development*
5 *Initiative (in this Act referred to as the “Initiative”). The*
6 *purpose of the Initiative is to improve the Federal Govern-*
7 *ment’s role in designing and implementing Federal water*
8 *research, development, demonstration, data collection and*
9 *dissemination, education, and technology transfer activities*
10 *to address changes in water use, supply, and demand in*
11 *the United States, including providing additional support*
12 *to increase water supply through greater efficiency and con-*
13 *servation.*

14 (b) *INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.*—

15 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 3 months after*
16 *the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall*
17 *establish, or designate, an interagency committee to*
18 *implement the Initiative under subsection (a). The*
19 *Office of Science and Technology Policy shall chair*
20 *the interagency committee.*

21 (2) *COMPOSITION.*—*The interagency committee*
22 *shall include a representative from each agency that*
23 *conducts research related to water or has authority*
24 *over resources that affect water supply, as well as a*
25 *representative from the Office of Management and*
26 *Budget.*

1 (3) *FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERAGENCY COM-*
2 *MITTEE.—The interagency committee shall—*

3 (A) *develop a National Water Research and*
4 *Assessment Plan (in this Act referred to as the*
5 *“plan”) in accordance with subsection (c) and in*
6 *coordination with State, local, and tribal govern-*
7 *ments;*

8 (B) *coordinate all Federal research, develop-*
9 *ment, demonstration, data collection and dis-*
10 *semination, education, and technology transfer*
11 *activities pertaining to water;*

12 (C) *encourage cooperation among Federal*
13 *agencies and State, local, and tribal governments*
14 *with respect to water-related research, develop-*
15 *ment, and technological innovation activities to*
16 *avoid duplication of effort and to ensure optimal*
17 *use of resources and expertise;*

18 (D) *facilitate technology transfer, commu-*
19 *nication, and opportunities for information ex-*
20 *change with non-governmental organizations,*
21 *State and local governments, tribal governments,*
22 *industry, and other members of the stakeholder*
23 *community through the office established in*
24 *paragraph (4);*

1 (E) provide guidance on outreach to minor-
2 ity serving institutions that are eligible institu-
3 tions under section 371(a) of the Higher Edu-
4 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)) to en-
5 courage such institutions to apply for funding
6 opportunities specified in the plan;

7 (F) encourage cooperation between Federal
8 agencies, State and local governments, and tribal
9 governments to develop standard methods for col-
10 lecting, managing, and disseminating data on
11 water; and

12 (G) not later than 1 year after the date of
13 enactment of this Act and every 3 years there-
14 after—

15 (i) identify from each agency described
16 in paragraph (2) the statutory or regu-
17 latory barriers preventing the use of any
18 technology, technique, data collection meth-
19 od, or model that would contribute to great-
20 er availability of water resources in the
21 United States through enhanced efficiency
22 and conservation; and

23 (ii) submit a report of the findings
24 from clause (i) to Congress.

1 (4) *NATIONAL WATER INITIATIVE COORDINATION*
2 *OFFICE.*—

3 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 3 months*
4 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Presi-*
5 *dent shall establish a National Water Initiative*
6 *Coordination Office (in this Act referred to as*
7 *the “Office”), with full-time staff, to—*

8 (i) *provide technical and administra-*
9 *tive support to the interagency committee;*

10 (ii) *serve as a point of contact on Fed-*
11 *eral water activities for government agen-*
12 *cies, organizations, academia, industry,*
13 *professional societies, and others to exchange*
14 *technical and programmatic information;*
15 *and*

16 (iii) *communicate with the public on*
17 *the findings and recommendations of the*
18 *interagency committee based on the activi-*
19 *ties conducted pursuant to the Initiative.*

20 (B) *FUNDING.*—*The operation of the Office*
21 *shall be supported by funds contributed from*
22 *each agency represented on the interagency com-*
23 *mittee.*

24 (c) *NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT*
25 *PLAN.*—

1 (1) *PLAN DEVELOPMENT.*—*The plan required*
2 *under subsection (b)(3)(A) shall establish the prior-*
3 *ities for Federal water research, including federally*
4 *funded research, and assessment for the 4-year period*
5 *beginning in the year in which the plan is submitted*
6 *to Congress. In the development of the plan, the inter-*
7 *agency committee shall consider and utilize rec-*
8 *ommendations and information from State, local, and*
9 *tribal governments and contained in reports that have*
10 *addressed water research needs, including the 2007 re-*
11 *port issued by the Subcommittee on Water Avail-*
12 *ability and Quality (SWAQ) of the National Science*
13 *and Technology Council’s Committee on Environment*
14 *and Natural Resources and recommendations of the*
15 *National Academy of Sciences.*

16 (2) *SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.*—*The plan shall—*

17 (A) *identify each current program and ac-*
18 *tivity of each Federal agency related to the Ini-*
19 *tiative;*

20 (B) *identify funding levels for the previous*
21 *fiscal year for each program and, if applicable,*
22 *each activity identified in subparagraph (A);*

23 (C) *set forth a strategy and a timeline to*
24 *achieve the outcomes described in subsection (d)*
25 *and shall describe—*

1 (i) each activity required of each agen-
2 cy responsible for contributing to each such
3 outcome;

4 (ii) the funding levels necessary to
5 achieve each such outcome; and

6 (iii) the distribution of funds between
7 each agency based on such agency's role in
8 carrying out such activity;

9 (D) be subject to a 90-day public comment
10 period and shall address suggestions received and
11 incorporate public input received, as appro-
12 priate; and

13 (E) be submitted to Congress not later than
14 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

15 (d) *WATER RESEARCH OUTCOMES AND ASSESS-*
16 *MENTS.—The plan shall outline and direct agencies under*
17 *the interagency committee to work to achieve the following*
18 *outcomes:*

19 (1) *Implementation of a National Water Census,*
20 *which shall include the collection of data on national*
21 *water resources to create a comprehensive database*
22 *that includes information about the quantity, avail-*
23 *ability, and quality of ground water and surface*
24 *water resources.*

1 (2) *Development of a new generation of water*
2 *monitoring techniques.*

3 (3) *Development of technologies for enhancing re-*
4 *liable water supply, water reuse, and pollution pre-*
5 *vention.*

6 (4) *Development of innovative technologies and*
7 *tools to enhance water quality, including advanced*
8 *water treatment and water purification technologies.*

9 (5) *Development of innovative technologies and*
10 *tools to enhance water-use efficiency and tools to en-*
11 *courage public acceptance of such technologies and*
12 *tools.*

13 (6) *Development of tools and processes to facili-*
14 *tate resolution of conflicts over water resources.*

15 (7) *Development of information technology sys-*
16 *tems to enhance water quality and supply.*

17 (8) *Improvement of understanding of water-re-*
18 *lated ecosystem services and ecosystem needs for*
19 *water.*

20 (9) *Improvement of hydrologic prediction models*
21 *and their applications.*

22 (10) *Analyses of the energy required to provide*
23 *reliable water supplies and the water required to pro-*
24 *vide reliable energy supplies throughout the United*
25 *States.*

1 (11) *Analyses of the social, behavioral, and eco-*
2 *nom ic barriers to sustainable use of water resources*
3 *in the United States.*

4 (12) *Assessment of national water availability*
5 *and use.*

6 (13) *Regional assessments of the status of water*
7 *supplies and evaluation of potential changes in such*
8 *status due to changes in land use, population size and*
9 *distribution, and economic activity.*

10 (14) *Assessment of water quality, availability,*
11 *and use in rural areas, including—*

12 (A) *maintaining water quality and enhanc-*
13 *ing energy efficiency of water treatment and de-*
14 *livery through the use of technologies or practices*
15 *developed to address rural communities; and*

16 (B) *developing data and information to*
17 *support water planning and conservation.*

18 (e) *ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The President shall estab-*
19 *lish, or designate, an advisory committee to advise the*
20 *interagency committee established under subsection (b).*

21 **SEC. 3. BUDGET COORDINATION.**

22 (a) *IN GENERAL.—The President shall provide guid-*
23 *ance to each Federal agency participating in the Initiative*
24 *with respect to the preparation of requests for appropria-*
25 *tions for activities related to the plan.*

1 **(b) CONSIDERATION IN THE PRESIDENT’S BUDGET.**—
2 *The President shall submit, at the time of the President’s*
3 *annual budget request to Congress, a description of those*
4 *items in each agency’s budget which are elements of the plan*
5 *or help to achieve the outcomes of the plan.*

6 **SEC. 4. COORDINATION.**

7 *The interagency committee shall coordinate the activi-*
8 *ties of the Initiative with the United States Global Change*
9 *Research Program.*

10 **SEC. 5. ANNUAL REPORT.**

11 *Concurrent with the annual submission of the Presi-*
12 *dent’s budget to Congress, the President shall submit to Con-*
13 *gress a report that describes the activities and results of the*
14 *Initiative during the previous fiscal year and outlines the*
15 *objectives for the next fiscal year. The report shall include*
16 *detailed information on all programs and activities in-*
17 *volved in the Initiative, including an analysis of progress*
18 *towards achieving the outcomes listed in section 2(d).*

19 **SEC. 6. NATIONAL WATER PILOT TESTING FACILITY FEASI-**
20 **BILITY STUDY AND REPORT.**

21 **(a) STUDY.**—

22 **(1) REQUIREMENT.**—*The Comptroller General of*
23 *the United States shall complete a study examining*
24 *the feasibility and practicality of creating a national*
25 *water pilot testing facility.*

1 (2) *CONTENTS.*—*The study shall—*

2 (A) *examine Federal programs and facili-*
3 *ties that currently engage in some form of water*
4 *technology testing;*

5 (B) *evaluate the practicality and identify*
6 *the potential costs of establishing a national*
7 *water pilot testing facility; and*

8 (C) *examine the efforts of Federal agencies*
9 *to establish testing facilities related to other tech-*
10 *nologies, including wind and solar, and the les-*
11 *sons learned from implementing these programs.*

12 (b) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 2 years after the date*
13 *of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall*
14 *transmit to Congress a report on the key findings of the*
15 *study conducted under subsection (a).*

16 **SEC. 7. DOE WATER TECHNOLOGIES FOR INCREASED EN-**
17 **ERGY EFFICIENCY ACTIVITIES.**

18 Section 452(c)(2) of the *Energy Independence and Se-*
19 *curity Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–140; 42 U.S.C. 17111)*
20 *is amended—*

21 (1) *in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” after*
22 *the semicolon;*

23 (2) *by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through*
24 *(F) as subparagraphs (E) through (G), respectively;*
25 *and*

1 (3) *by inserting after subparagraph (C) the fol-*
2 *lowing:*

3 “(D) *research to develop water efficient*
4 *technologies that increase energy efficiency, in-*
5 *cluding utilization of impaired water sources in*
6 *production;”.*

7 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 *There are authorized to be appropriated to the Na-*
9 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for coordi-*
10 *nation and outreach activities conducted under this Act*
11 *through the Office established in section 2(b)(4)—*

12 (1) *\$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;*

13 (2) *\$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and*

14 (3) *\$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.*

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