

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3646

To direct the Secretary of the Army to give priority to projects and studies for hurricane and storm damage risk reduction, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 4, 2013

Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself and Mr. KING of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Army to give priority to projects and studies for hurricane and storm damage risk reduction, 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 “Extreme Weather Miti-
5 gation Act of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION**

7 **PRIORITIZATION.**

8 (a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

1 (1) to provide adequate levels of protection to
2 communities impacted by natural disasters, includ-
3 ing hurricanes, tropical storms, and other related ex-
4 treme weather events; and

5 (2) to expedite critical water resources projects
6 in communities that have historically been and con-
7 tinue to remain susceptible to extreme weather
8 events.

9 (b) PRIORITY.—For authorized projects and ongoing
10 feasibility studies with a primary purpose of hurricane and
11 storm damage risk reduction, the Secretary of the Army
12 shall give funding priority to projects and ongoing studies
13 that—

14 (1) address an imminent threat to life and
15 property;

16 (2) prevent storm surge from inundating popu-
17 lated areas;

18 (3) prevent the loss of coastal wetlands that
19 help reduce the impact of storm surge;

20 (4) protect emergency hurricane evacuation
21 routes or shelters;

22 (5) prevent adverse impacts to publicly owned
23 or funded infrastructure and assets;

24 (6) minimize disaster relief costs to the Federal
25 Government; and

1 (7) address hurricane and storm damage risk
2 reduction in an area for which the President de-
3 clared a major disaster in accordance with section
4 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
5 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170).

6 (c) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF CURRENTLY AU-
7 THORIZED PROJECTS.—Not later than 180 days after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

9 (1) submit to the Committee on Environment
10 and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee
11 on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House
12 of Representatives a list of all—

13 (A) ongoing hurricane and storm damage
14 reduction feasibility studies that have signed
15 feasibility cost share agreements and have re-
16 ceived Federal funds since 2009; and

17 (B) authorized hurricane and storm dam-
18 age reduction projects that—

19 (i) have been authorized for more
20 than 20 years but are less than 75 percent
21 complete; or

22 (ii) are undergoing a post-authoriza-
23 tion change report, general reevaluation re-
24 port, or limited reevaluation report;

1 (2) identify those projects on the list required
2 under paragraph (1) that meet the criteria described
3 in subsection (b); and

4 (3) provide a plan for expeditiously completing
5 the projects identified under paragraph (2), subject
6 to available funding.

7 (d) **PRIORITIZATION OF NEW STUDIES FOR HURRI-**
8 **CANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION.**—In select-
9 ing new studies for hurricane and storm damage reduction
10 to propose to Congress, the Secretary shall give priority
11 to studies—

12 (1) that—

13 (A) have been recommended in a com-
14 prehensive hurricane protection study carried
15 out by the Corps of Engineers; or

16 (B) are included in a State plan or pro-
17 gram for hurricane, storm damage reduction,
18 flood control, coastal protection, conservation,
19 or restoration that is created in consultation
20 with the Corps of Engineers or other relevant
21 Federal agencies; and

22 (2) for areas for which the President declared
23 a major disaster in accordance with section 401 of

1 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-
2 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170).

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