

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9723

To amend the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 to reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

Mr. MILLER of Ohio (for himself and Mr. FOSTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 to reauthorize the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program, 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 Windstorm  
5 Impact Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL WINDSTORM IMPACT REDUCTION PRO-**  
2 **GRAM.**

3 The National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of  
4 2004 is amended—

5 (1) in section 204 (42 U.S.C. 15703)—

6 (A) in subsection (a), by striking “the pur-  
7 pose of which is to achieve” through “cost-ef-  
8 fective mitigation measures to reduce those im-  
9 pacts.” and inserting the following: “the pur-  
10 pose of which is to—

11 “(1) achieve major measurable reductions in the  
12 losses of life and property from windstorms through  
13 a coordinated Federal effort, in cooperation with  
14 other levels of government, academia, scientific orga-  
15 nizations, and the private sector, aimed at improving  
16 the understanding of windstorms and their impacts,  
17 including wind-driven rain, wind-driven fires, and  
18 storm surge impacts; and

19 “(2) develop and encourage the implementation  
20 of cost-effective mitigation measures to reduce the  
21 impacts described in paragraph (1), which can be  
22 applied to communities with different types of hous-  
23 ing and infrastructure in urban and rural areas  
24 across the United States.”;

25 (B) in subsection (b)—

26 (i) in paragraph (1)—

1 (I) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (aa) by striking “Federal,  
3 State, and local” and inserting  
4 “Federal, State, local, and Trib-  
5 al”; and

6 (bb) by inserting “, includ-  
7 ing with respect to existing build-  
8 ings and manufactured housing”  
9 before the semicolon;

10 (II) by redesignating subpara-  
11 graphs (B), (C), (D), and (E) as sub-  
12 paragraphs (C), (F), (G), and (H), re-  
13 spectively;

14 (III) by inserting after subpara-  
15 graph (A) the following new subpara-  
16 graph:

17 “(B) ensure the Program supports inter-  
18 disciplinary research, including collaborations  
19 that include social scientists and emergency  
20 managers, and collaborations between atmos-  
21 pheric scientists and engineers, that seek to in-  
22 crease the relevance of atmospheric measure-  
23 ments and models for buildings engineering ap-  
24 plications;”; and

1 (IV) by inserting after subpara-  
2 graph (C), as so redesignated, the fol-  
3 lowing new subparagraphs:

4 “(D) support integration of emerging tools  
5 and technologies in research and engineering  
6 activities carried out by the Program, including  
7 relating to artificial intelligence, machine learn-  
8 ing, advanced manufacturing technologies, and  
9 new materials;

10 “(E) support property owner utilization of  
11 products and construction methods which  
12 strengthen residential and commercial prop-  
13 erties from the impact of windstorms, wind-  
14 driven rain, wind-driven fires, and storm surge  
15 impacts, including building methodologies and  
16 certification standards;”;

17 (ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting “to  
18 increase resilience to windstorms and re-  
19 sulting wind-driven rain and storm surge  
20 impacts” before the period;

21 (iii) in paragraph (3)—

22 (I) in the matter preceding sub-  
23 paragraph (A), by striking “support  
24 research in”;

25 (II) in subparagraph (A)—

1 (aa) by inserting “support  
2 research in” before “engineering  
3 and the atmospheric sciences”;  
4 and

5 (bb) by striking “and” after  
6 the semicolon;

7 (III) by amending subparagraph  
8 (B) to read as follows:

9 “(B) support research in economic, behav-  
10 ioral, and social factors influencing develop-  
11 ment, implementation, and adoption of wind-  
12 storm and resulting wind-driven rain, wind-driv-  
13 en fires, and storm surge impacts risk assess-  
14 ment, risk communication, and risk reduction  
15 measures by individuals, property owners, com-  
16 munities, and policymakers; and”;

17 (IV) by adding at the end the fol-  
18 lowing new subparagraph:

19 “(C) support an analysis of the scientific  
20 need, opportunity, and challenges to supporting  
21 the design, development, and construction of a  
22 tornado research facility for the study of tor-  
23 nado impacts on buildings at scale.”;

24 (iv) in paragraph (4)—

1 (I) by striking “The National  
2 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-  
3 tion” and all that follows through the  
4 period and inserting the following:

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The National Oceanic  
6 and Atmospheric Administration shall support  
7 atmospheric sciences research to improve the  
8 understanding of the behavior of windstorms,  
9 and resulting wind-driven rain, wind-driven  
10 fires, and storm surge, and their impacts on  
11 buildings, structures, and lifelines.”; and

12 (II) by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing new subparagraph:

14 “(B) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

15 “(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Adminis-  
16 trator of the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
17 pheric Administration shall establish a Sci-  
18 entific Windstorm Studies Advisory Com-  
19 mittee (in this subparagraph referred to as  
20 the ‘Advisory Committee’).

21 “(ii) ORGANIZATION.—The Adminis-  
22 trator of the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
23 pheric Administration—

24 “(I) shall establish procedures for  
25 selection to the Advisory Committee of

1 individuals not employed by the Fed-  
2 eral Government who are qualified in  
3 the atmospheric and oceanic sciences  
4 and other appropriate fields; and

5 “(II) may, pursuant to such pro-  
6 cedures, select up to ten individuals,  
7 one of whom shall be designated Chair  
8 of the Advisory Committee.

9 “(iii) SELECTION.—Selection of indi-  
10 viduals to the Advisory Committee shall be  
11 based solely on established records of dis-  
12 tinguished service, and the Administrator  
13 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
14 Administration shall ensure a reasonable  
15 cross-section of views and expertise is rep-  
16 resented. In selecting individuals to serve  
17 on the Advisory Committee, the Adminis-  
18 trator shall seek and give due consider-  
19 ation to recommendations from the Na-  
20 tional Academy of Sciences, professional  
21 societies, and other appropriate organiza-  
22 tions.

23 “(iv) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Com-  
24 mittee shall meet at such times and places  
25 as may be designated by the Chair, in con-

1 sultation with the Administrator of the Na-  
2 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-  
3 tration.

4 “(v) DUTIES.—The Advisory Com-  
5 mittee shall advise the Administrator of  
6 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-  
7 ministration on matters relating to the Ad-  
8 ministration’s participation in the Pro-  
9 gram, including the Administration’s roles,  
10 goals, and objectives within the Program,  
11 its capabilities and research needs, guid-  
12 ance on achieving major objectives, and es-  
13 tablishing and measuring performance  
14 goals.

15 “(vi) REPORT.—The Advisory Com-  
16 mittee shall submit to the Administrator of  
17 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-  
18 ministration a biennial report for submis-  
19 sion to Congress. Each such biennial re-  
20 port shall describe the Advisory Commit-  
21 tee’s activities and address policy issues or  
22 matters that affect the Administration’s  
23 participation in the Program.

24 “(vii) TERMINATION.—The Advisory  
25 Committee shall terminate four years after



1 the date of the enactment of this subpara-  
2 graph.”; and

3 (v) in paragraph (5)—

4 (I) in subparagraph (A)—

5 (aa) in clause (i), by insert-  
6 ing “, maintenance, and updat-  
7 ing” after “development”; and

8 (bb) in clause (ii), inserting  
9 “, including making such data  
10 available and interoperable to the  
11 extent practicable” before the  
12 semicolon; and

13 (II) in subparagraph (B), by in-  
14 serting “and scientific organizations”  
15 after “National Institutes of Stand-  
16 ards and Technology”;

17 (C) in subsection (c)—

18 (i) in paragraph (2)—

19 (ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “to  
20 improve knowledge of and data collection  
21 on the impact of severe wind on buildings,  
22 structures, and infrastructure.” and insert-  
23 ing the following: “to—

24 “(A) improve knowledge of and data collec-  
25 tion on the impact of severe wind on buildings,

1 structures, infrastructure, and community re-  
2 sponse; and

3 “(B) understand the impacts of climate  
4 variability and climate change on the behavior  
5 of windstorms and the changing nature of wind-  
6 storm risks, including future projections of  
7 storm frequency, intensity, and other factors.”;

8 (iii) in paragraph (3)—

9 (I) in subparagraph (A), by in-  
10 sserting “and technologies” after  
11 “mechanisms”;

12 (II) in subparagraph (B), by  
13 striking “and” after the semicolon;

14 (III) in subparagraph (C)—

15 (aa) by inserting “near-sur-  
16 face winds and” after “modeling  
17 of”;

18 (bb) by striking the period  
19 and inserting “; and”;

20 (IV) by adding at the end the fol-  
21 lowing new subparagraph:

22 “(D) research and development to enhance  
23 understanding of factors that influence public  
24 responses to windstorm risks.”; and

25 (iv) in paragraph (4)—

- 1 (I) in subparagraph (A), by strik-  
2 ing “and local officials” and inserting  
3 “local, and Tribal officials”; and
- 4 (II) in subparagraph (C)—
- 5 (aa) by striking “and local  
6 officials” and inserting “local,  
7 and Tribal officials”; and
- 8 (bb) by inserting “academia,  
9 scientific organizations,” after  
10 “construction industry,”; and
- 11 (D) in subsection (e)—
- 12 (i) in paragraph (2)(A)—
- 13 (I) in clause (iv), by striking  
14 “and” after the semicolon; and
- 15 (II) by adding at the end the fol-  
16 lowing new clause:  
17 “(vi) the Department of Housing and  
18 Urban Development; and”;
- 19 (ii) in paragraph (5)—
- 20 (I) in the matter preceding sub-  
21 paragraph (A), by striking “not later  
22 than 1 year after the date of enact-  
23 ment of the National Windstorm Im-  
24 pact Reduction Act Reauthorization of  
25 2015” and inserting “not later than

1 18 months after the date of the enact-  
2 ment of the National Windstorm Im-  
3 pact Reduction Program Reauthoriza-  
4 tion Act of 2024”;

5 (II) in subparagraph (A), by in-  
6 sserting “and resulting wind-driven  
7 rain, wind-driven fires, and storm  
8 surge impacts” before the semicolon;

9 (III) in subparagraph (C), by in-  
10 sserting “, including efforts to cooper-  
11 ate with other levels of government,  
12 academia, scientific organizations, and  
13 the private sector” before the semi-  
14 colon;

15 (IV) in subparagraph (D), by  
16 striking “and” after the semicolon;

17 (V) by redesignating subpara-  
18 graph (E) as subparagraph (F); and

19 (VI) by inserting after subpara-  
20 graph (D) the following new subpara-  
21 graph:

22 “(E) an analysis of future research infra-  
23 structure needs, including facilities and  
24 deployable equipment in support of the Pro-

1           gram, and a plan for meeting such needs; and”;  
2           and

3                           (iii) in paragraph (6)—

4                                   (I) in the matter preceding sub-  
5                                   paragraph (A), by striking “Not later  
6                                   than 18 months after the date of en-  
7                                   actment of the National Windstorm  
8                                   Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization  
9                                   of 2015” and inserting “Not later  
10                                  than 18 months after the date of the  
11                                  enactment of the National Windstorm  
12                                  Impact Reduction Program Reauthor-  
13                                  ization Act of 2024”;

14                                   (II) in subparagraph (B), by in-  
15                                   serting “and” after the semicolon;

16                                   (III) in subparagraph (C), by  
17                                   striking “; and” and inserting a pe-  
18                                   riod; and

19                                   (IV) by striking subparagraph  
20                                   (D); and

21                   (2) in section 207 (42 U.S.C. 15706)—

22                                   (A) in subsection (a), by striking para-  
23                                   graphs (1) through (3) and inserting the fol-  
24                                   lowing new paragraphs:

25                                   “(1) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2025.

1 “(2) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2026.

2 “(3) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2027.

3 “(4) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2028.

4 “(5) \$5,332,000 for fiscal year 2029.”;

5 (B) in subsection (b), by striking para-  
6 graphs (1) through (3) and inserting the fol-  
7 lowing new paragraphs:

8 “(1) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2025.

9 “(2) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2026.

10 “(3) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2027.

11 “(4) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2028.

12 “(5) \$9,682,000 for fiscal year 2029.”;

13 (C) in subsection (c), by striking para-  
14 graphs (1) through (3) and inserting the fol-  
15 lowing new paragraphs:

16 “(1) \$5,564,000 for fiscal year 2025.

17 “(2) \$5,564,000 for fiscal year 2026.

18 “(3) \$5,564,000 for fiscal year 2027.

19 “(4) \$5,564,000 for fiscal year 2028.

20 “(5) \$5,564,000 for fiscal year 2029.”; and

21 (D) in subsection (d), by striking para-  
22 graphs (1) through (3) and inserting the fol-  
23 lowing new paragraphs:

24 “(1) \$17,219,000 for fiscal year 2025.

25 “(2) \$17,219,000 for fiscal year 2026.

- 1 “(3) \$17,219,000 for fiscal year 2027.
- 2 “(4) \$17,219,000 for fiscal year 2028.
- 3 “(5) \$17,219,000 for fiscal year 2029.”.

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