

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1626

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## AN ACT

To reauthorize the National Landslide Preparedness 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Landslide  
3 Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2025”.

4 **SEC. 2. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS UNDER FLOOD LEVEL OB-**  
5 **SERVATION, OPERATIONS, AND DECISION**  
6 **SUPPORT ACT.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 12(a) of the Flood Level  
8 Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act (15  
9 U.S.C. 9707(a)) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as  
11 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

12 (2) by inserting before paragraph (4) (as so re-  
13 designated) the following:

14 “(1) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER.—The term ‘atmos-  
15 pheric river’ means a transient corridor of strong  
16 water vapor in the atmosphere that—

17 “(A) produces significant quantities of rain  
18 or snow; and

19 “(B) may be primarily beneficial to the  
20 water supply or hazardous due to flooding.

21 “(2) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER FLOODING EVENT.—  
22 The term ‘atmospheric river flooding event’ means  
23 an atmospheric river that—

24 “(A) results in flooding of rivers and  
25 streams or other hazards to human life, prop-  
26 erty, or the economy; and

“(3) EXTREME PRECIPITATION EVENT.—The ‘extreme precipitation event’ means precipitation quantities exceeding the 5-year annual recurrence interval for a specific location.”.

**SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL LANDSLIDE PRE-  
PAREDNESS ACT.**

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER.—The term ‘atmospheric river’ has the meaning given the term in section 12(a) of the Flood Level Observation, Oper-

ations, and Decision Support Act (15 U.S.C. 9707(a)).

“(5) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER FLOODING EVENT.—The term ‘atmospheric river flooding event’ has the meaning given the term in section 12(a) of the Flood Level Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act (15 U.S.C. 9707(a)).

“(6) EXTREME PRECIPITATION EVENT.—The term ‘extreme precipitation event’ has the meaning given the term in section 12(a) of the Flood Level Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act (15 U.S.C. 9707(a)).”;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (8) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(9) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).”;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (11) (as so redesignated) the following:

“(12) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘Native Hawaiian organization’ has the meaning given the term in section 6207 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20

U.S.C. 7517), except that the term includes the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(17) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘Tribal organization’ has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).”.

(b) NATIONAL LANDSLIDE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 3(a)(3) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(a)(3)) is amended by striking “protect” and inserting “contribute to protecting”.

(2) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—Section 3(b)(1)(C)(ii) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(b)(1)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking “implement” and inserting “disseminate”.

(3) NATIONAL STRATEGY.—Section 3(b)(2) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(b)(2)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking “Not later than” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) ASSESSMENT.—For purposes of the first national strategy published after the date of enactment of the National Landslide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2025 under subparagraph (A), the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall include an assessment of the risks that atmospheric river flooding events and extreme precipitation events pose to the safety of life and property in the United States with respect to landslide hazards.”.

(4) NATIONAL LANDSLIDE HAZARDS DATABASE.—Section 3(b)(3) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(b)(3)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) the identification of areas in need of additional hazard risk assessment, including areas that may be at risk due to—

“(i) hydrology or changes in hydrology that may include erosion, drought, or other characteristics that could impact landslide risk;

“(ii) atmospheric river flooding events and extreme precipitation events, as identified by the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary;

“(iii) geologic activity, such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, or tsunamis; or

“(iv) data-poor areas or hazards with poor monitoring that could contribute to increased landslide risk;”.

(5) LANDSLIDE HAZARD AND RISK PREPAREDNESS FOR COMMUNITIES.—Section 3(b)(4) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(b)(4)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “Native Hawaiian organizations and other stakeholders, as appropriate,” before “and Indian tribes”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “local, and Tribal governments and decisionmakers” and inserting “and local governments, Indian tribes, Tribal organizations, Native Hawaiian organizations, and other decisionmakers”;

(ii) by striking clause (iii) and inserting the following:

“(iii) health and safety with respect to landslides;”;

(iii) by redesignating clause (iv) as clause (v); and

(iv) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

“(iv) reducing losses from landslides, including the threats caused by atmospheric rivers and other extreme precipitation events; and”; and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking “local, and Tribal officials” and inserting “and local officials, Indian tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations”; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “local, and Tribal emergency managers” and inserting “and local emergency managers and emergency managers of Indian tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations”.

(6) DEBRIS FLOW EARLY WARNING SYSTEM.—  
Section 3(b)(5) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(b)(5)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments” and inserting “State, territorial, and local governments, Indian tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(C) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking “In carrying out” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Secretary may consult with an institution of higher education de-

scribed in subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv) and other stakeholders to establish and support emergency response procedures, as appropriate.”.

(7) EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES.—Section 3(b)(6) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102(b)(6)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking “In carrying” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying”;

(C) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated), by inserting “Native Hawaiian organizations,” before “and Indian tribes”;

(ii) in clause (ii) (as so redesignated), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in clause (iii) (as so redesignated), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) to improve real-time risk management during landslide events, including with respect to landslide events caused by—

“(I) hydrology or changes in hydrology that may include erosion, drought, or other characteristics that could impact landslide risk;

“(II) atmospheric river flooding events and extreme precipitation events, as identified by the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary;

“(III) geologic activity, such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, or tsunamis;

“(IV) data-poor areas or hazards with poor monitoring that could contribute to increased landslide risk; or

“(V) thawing permafrost and glacial retreat causing destabilization of slopes.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(B) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out  
 2           subparagraph (A), the Secretary may consult  
 3           with an institution of higher education de-  
 4           scribed in subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv) and the pri-  
 5           vate sector.”.

6           (8) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 3(d)(2)(B)  
 7           of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43  
 8           U.S.C. 3102(d)(2)(B)) is amended—

9                   (A) in clause (iii), by striking “geological”;  
 10                  and

11                  (B) in clause (vi), by striking “local, and  
 12                  Tribal emergency management agencies” and  
 13                  inserting “and local emergency management  
 14                  agencies and emergency management agencies  
 15                  of Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organiza-  
 16                  tions”.

17           (9) REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—Section 3 of  
 18           the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.  
 19           3102) is amended—

20                   (A) by redesignating subsections (e)  
 21                   through (i) as subsections (f) through (j), re-  
 22                   spectively; and

23                   (B) by inserting after subsection (d) the  
 24                   following:

25           “(e) REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable  
2 after the date of enactment of the National Land-  
3 slide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2025,  
4 the Secretary shall establish in each region in which  
5 the Secretary determines that there is a high land-  
6 slide hazard a regional partnership with an eligible  
7 partner described in paragraph (2).

8 “(2) ELIGIBLE PARTNERS.—An organization or  
9 institution of higher education with expertise in  
10 landslide mapping, research, and monitoring shall be  
11 eligible for a regional partnership under paragraph  
12 (1).

13 “(3) PURPOSES AND DUTIES.—A regional part-  
14 nership established under paragraph (1) shall—

15 “(A) allow the Secretary to leverage appli-  
16 cable expertise in regional organizations;

17 “(B) coordinate long-term landslide re-  
18 search specific to the applicable region; and

19 “(C) align interagency landslide moni-  
20 toring efforts.”.

21 (10) GRANT PROGRAMS.—Section 3 of the Na-  
22 tional Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102)  
23 is amended, in paragraph (1) of subsection (f) (as  
24 redesignated by paragraph (9)(A))—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “local, and Tribal governments to research, map, assess” and inserting “and local governments, Indian tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations to research, map, assess, monitor”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “institutions of higher education described in subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv),” before “and Indian tribes”; and

(ii) in clause (ii)—

(I) by redesignating subclauses (II) through (IV) as subclauses (III) through (V), respectively; and

(II) by inserting after subclause (I) the following:

“(II) in regions that have recently experienced loss of life due to landslides;” and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “awarded” after “grants”; and

1 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “made”  
 2 and inserting “or other accomplishments  
 3 resulting”.

4 (11) SIGNIFICANT EVENTS.—Section 3 of the  
 5 National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.  
 6 3102) is amended, in subsection (h)(3) (as so reded-  
 7 igned), by striking “local, and Tribal partners”  
 8 and inserting “and local partners, Indian tribes,  
 9 Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organiza-  
 10 tions”.

11 (12) FUNDING.—Section 3 of the National  
 12 Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102) is  
 13 amended, in subsection (i) (as redesignated by para-  
 14 graph (9)(A))—

15 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
 16 by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”; and

17 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking  
 18 “\$25,000,000 to carry out this section” and in-  
 19 serting “\$35,000,000 to carry out this section,  
 20 of which not less than \$10,000,000 shall be  
 21 made available for the purchase, deployment,  
 22 and repair of landslide early warning systems in  
 23 high risk areas”.

24 (13) DEFICIT REDUCTION.—Section 3 of the  
 25 National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.

3102) is amended by striking subsection (j) (as redesignated by paragraph (9)(A)) and inserting the following:

“(j) FUNDING; DEFICIT REDUCTION.—

“(1) FUNDING.—Funds used by an agency to carry out this section may, as provided in advance in appropriations Acts, only come from amounts authorized to be appropriated to that agency.

“(2) DEFICIT REDUCTION.—Any amount appropriated to an account of a Federal agency for the Federal agency to carry out a responsibility under this section that is cancelled pursuant to section 1552(a) of title 31, United States Code, shall be transferred to the general fund of the Treasury and be applied to deficit reduction.”.

(c) 3D ELEVATION PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 5(a) of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3104(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “and derivative” after “3D elevation”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B)(i), by inserting “, process, and integrate” after “acquire”.

(2) 3D ELEVATION FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—Section 5(b)(3) of the

1 National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.  
2 3104(b)(3)) is amended—

3 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (D)  
4 and (E) as subparagraphs (E) and (F), respec-  
5 tively; and

6 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (C)  
7 the following:

8 “(D) the 3D Hydrography Program Work-  
9 ing Group;”.

10 (3) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREE-  
11 MENTS.—Section 5(d)(3) of the National Landslide  
12 Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3104(d)(3)) is amend-  
13 ed by striking “publically” and inserting “publicly”.

14 (4) FUNDING.—Section 5(e) of the National  
15 Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3104(e)) is  
16 amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2034”.

17 **SEC. 4. NEXT GENERATION WATER OBSERVING SYSTEM.**

18 The Act of December 24, 1942 (56 Stat. 1086, chap-  
19 ter 822; 43 U.S.C. 36b), is amended—

20 (1) in the first section, by striking “That the  
21 Secretary of the Interior” and inserting the fol-  
22 lowing:

1 **“SECTION 1. GAGING STREAMS AND UNDERGROUND**  
2 **WATER RESOURCES.**

3 “The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act  
4 as the ‘Secretary’)”;

5 (2) in section 1 (as so designated)—

6 (A) in the second sentence, by striking “of  
7 the Interior”; and

8 (B) in the proviso—

9 (i) by striking “this Act” each place it  
10 appears and inserting “this section”; and

11 (ii) by striking “of the Interior”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 **“SEC. 2. NEXT GENERATION WATER OBSERVING SYSTEM.**

14 “(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary shall estab-  
15 lish within the United States Geological Survey a system,  
16 to be known as the ‘Next Generation Water Observing  
17 System’ (referred to in this section as the ‘System’).

18 “(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the System is to  
19 provide real-time data on water quantity and quality—

20 “(1) that, as compared to previous systems, is  
21 more affordable, more rapid, and available in more  
22 locations; and

23 “(2) to support advanced modeling tools—

24 “(A) to provide state-of-the-art flood and  
25 drought forecasts;

1 “(B) to inform emergency- and water-man-  
2 agement decision support systems; and

3 “(C) to help evaluate—

4 “(i) the near-term and long-term risks  
5 of floods and droughts, including any sce-  
6 narios that modify those risks;

7 “(ii) the quantity of water stored in  
8 seasonal snow packs, and how changes in  
9 seasonal snow packs affect water supplies;

10 “(iii) the early stages of drought;

11 “(iv) the predicted timelines for  
12 drought recovery;

13 “(v) the quantity of water lost to  
14 evapotranspiration;

15 “(vi) water quality differences during  
16 wet and dry periods;

17 “(vii) the effects of streamflow on  
18 groundwater;

19 “(viii) the effects of groundwater on  
20 streamflow; and

21 “(ix) ice and water volume stored in  
22 glaciers and changing water volumes due  
23 to glacial retreat.

24 “(c) SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS.—The System shall  
25 provide for—

- 1 “(1) state-of-the-art measurements;  
2 “(2) a dense array of sensors at selected sites;  
3 “(3) increased spatial and temporal coverage;  
4 “(4) new technology testing and implementa-  
5 tion;  
6 “(5) improved operational efficiency; and  
7 “(6) modernized and timely data storage and  
8 delivery.

9 “(d) PRIORITY REGIONS.—In determining in which  
10 regions of the United States Geological Survey to carry  
11 out the System, the Secretary shall give priority to regions  
12 of the United States Geological Survey in which there is—

- 13 “(1) a high level of drought;  
14 “(2) a reliance on reservoirs for water storage;  
15 “(3) a reliance on hydrologic storage, including  
16 groundwater, aquifers, and snowpack; and  
17 “(4) flooding and extreme rainfall.

18 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
20 appropriated to carry out this section in 10 initial  
21 basins, as determined by the Secretary, \$30,000,000  
22 for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until ex-  
23 pended.

24 “(2) DERIVATION OF FUNDS.—Amounts made  
25 available to carry out this section shall be derived

1 from amounts appropriated or otherwise made avail-  
 2 able to the United States Geological Survey.”.

3 **SEC. 5. WATER DATA ENHANCEMENT AND NATIONAL**  
 4 **GROUNDWATER RESOURCES MONITORING**  
 5 **BY UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.**

6 Section 9507 of the Omnibus Public Land Manage-  
 7 ment Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10367) is amended—

8 (1) in subsection (a)—

9 (A) in paragraph (2)(C)—

10 (i) in clause (i), by striking “and” at  
 11 the end;

12 (ii) in clause (ii), by inserting “and”  
 13 after the semicolon at the end; and

14 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
 15 lowing:

16 “(iii) the conduct of groundwater  
 17 quality assessments relating to permafrost  
 18 thaw and changes in precipitation rates;”;

19 (B) in paragraph (4)—

20 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

21 (I) in the matter preceding clause  
 22 (i), by striking “10 years” and insert-  
 23 ing “11 years”; and

24 (II) in clause (i), by striking “na-  
 25 tional streamflow information pro-

1                   gram” and inserting “Federal priority  
2                   streamgage program”;

3                   (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
4                   “Federal Priority streamgage program”  
5                   and inserting “Federal Priority  
6                   Streamgage Network”; and

7                   (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
8                   lowing:

9                   “(C) PRIORITY SITES.—In selecting sites  
10                  for the installation of streamgages under sub-  
11                  paragraph (A), the Secretary shall give priority  
12                  to regions of the United States Geological Sur-  
13                  vey in which there is—

14                   “(i) a high level of drought;

15                   “(ii) a reliance on reservoirs for water  
16                  storage;

17                   “(iii) a reliance on hydrologic storage,  
18                  including groundwater, aquifers, and  
19                  snowpack; and

20                   “(iv) flooding and extreme rainfall.

21                  “(D) NO IMPACT ON EXISTING SITES.—  
22                  The priority provided under subparagraph (C)  
23                  shall have no impact on any site or region in  
24                  which a streamgage has been installed, and is  
25                  operating, as of the date of enactment of the

1 National Landslide Preparedness Act Reauthor-  
2 ization Act of 2025, subject to the condition  
3 that the data from such a site or region are  
4 continuing to meet the priority needs of stake-  
5 holders, as determined by the Secretary.”; and

6 (C) in paragraph (6)—

7 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
8 “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009  
9 through 2028” and inserting “\$30,000,000  
10 for each of fiscal years 2026 through  
11 2033”; and

12 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(C) DERIVATION OF FUNDS.—Amounts  
15 made available to carry out this subsection shall  
16 be derived from amounts appropriated or other-  
17 wise made available to the United States Geo-  
18 logical Survey.”; and

19 (2) in subsection (b)—

20 (A) in paragraph (2)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (B), in the matter  
22 preceding clause (i), by striking “and State  
23 and local water resource agencies and  
24 Tribes” and inserting “, State and local  
25 water resource agencies, Indian tribes,

Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organizations”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “State water resource agency or Tribe” and inserting “State water resource agency, Indian tribe, Tribal organization, or Native Hawaiian organization”;

(B) in paragraph (6)—

(i) by striking “give priority to those activities” and inserting the following: “give priority to—  
“(A) activities”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated)—

(I) by striking “State, a Tribe” and inserting “State, Indian tribe, Tribal organization, Native Hawaiian organization,”; and

(II) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) activities conducted in regions of the United States Geological Survey in which there is—

- 1 “(i) a high level of drought;  
2 “(ii) a reliance on reservoirs for water  
3 storage;  
4 “(iii) a reliance on hydrologic storage,  
5 including groundwater, aquifers, and  
6 snowpack; and  
7 “(iv) flooding and extreme rainfall.”;  
8 and  
9 (C) in paragraph (7)—  
10 (i) by striking “There are authorized  
11 to be appropriated” and inserting the fol-  
12 lowing:  
13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to  
14 be appropriated”; and  
15 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
16 lowing:

1                   “(B) DERIVATION OF FUNDS.—Amounts  
2                   made available to carry out this subsection shall  
3                   be derived from amounts appropriated or other-  
4                   wise made available to the United States Geo-  
5                   logical Survey.”.

Passed the Senate January 5, 2026.

Attest:

*Secretary.*



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To reauthorize the National Landslide  
Preparedness Act, and for other purposes.