

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2374

To establish the Climate Change Advisory Commission to develop recommendations, frameworks, and guidelines for projects to respond to the impacts of climate change, to issue Federal obligations, the proceeds of which shall be used to fund projects that aid in adaptation to climate change, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 22, 2025

Mr. DURBIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To establish the Climate Change Advisory Commission to develop recommendations, frameworks, and guidelines for projects to respond to the impacts of climate change, to issue Federal obligations, the proceeds of which shall be used to fund projects that aid in adaptation to climate change, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Climate Change Resiliency Fund for America Act of
6 2025”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMISSION

- Sec. 101. Establishment of Climate Change Advisory Commission.
 Sec. 102. Duties.
 Sec. 103. Commission personnel matters.
 Sec. 104. Funding.
 Sec. 105. Termination.

TITLE II—CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY FUND

- Sec. 201. Climate Change Resiliency Fund.
 Sec. 202. Compliance with Davis-Bacon Act.
 Sec. 203. Funding.

TITLE III—REVENUE

- Sec. 301. Climate Change Obligations.
 Sec. 302. Promotion.

2 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

3 In this Act:

4 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
 5 means the Climate Change Advisory Commission es-
 6 tablished by section 101(a).

7 (2) COMMUNITY OF COLOR.—The term “com-
 8 munity of color” means a geographically distinct
 9 area in which the population of any of the following
 10 categories of individuals is higher than the national
 11 average populations of that category:

- 12 (A) Black.
 13 (B) African American.
 14 (C) Asian.
 15 (D) Pacific Islander.
 16 (E) Other non-White race.

1 (F) Hispanic.

2 (G) Latino.

3 (H) Native American.

4 (I) Linguistically isolated.

5 (3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
6 ty” includes—

7 (A) a Federal agency;

8 (B) a State or group of States;

9 (C) a unit of local government or a group
10 of local governments;

11 (D) a utility district;

12 (E) a Tribal government or a consortium
13 of Tribal governments;

14 (F) a State or regional transit agency or a
15 group of State or regional transit agencies;

16 (G) a nonprofit organization;

17 (H) a special purpose district or public au-
18 thority, including a port authority; and

19 (I) any other entity, as determined by the
20 Secretary.

21 (4) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY.—
22 The term “environmental justice community” means
23 a community with significant representation of com-
24 munities of color or low-income communities that ex-

periences, or is at risk of experiencing, higher or more adverse human health or environmental effects.

(5) FRONTLINE COMMUNITY.—The term “frontline community” means a low-income community or a community of color that is disproportionately impacted or burdened by climate change, industrial pollution (including historic pollution), or a phenomenon associated with climate change, including such a community that was or is at risk of being disproportionately impacted or burdened by climate change, industrial pollution (including historic pollution), or a phenomenon associated with climate change earlier than other such communities.

(6) FUND.—The term “Fund” means the Climate Change Resiliency Fund established by section 201(a)(1).

(7) LOW-INCOME COMMUNITY.—The term “low-income community” means any census block group in which 30 percent or more of the population are individuals with an annual household income equal to, or less than, the greater of—

(A) an amount equal to 80 percent of the median household income of the area in which the household is located, as reported by the De-

1 partment of Housing and Urban Development;
2 and

3 (B) 200 percent of the Federal poverty
4 line.

5 (8) PROJECT.—The term “project” means a
6 project for a qualified climate change adaptation
7 purpose performed by an eligible entity under sec-
8 tion 201(b).

9 (9) QUALIFIED CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
10 PURPOSE.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “qualified cli-
12 mate change adaptation purpose” means an ob-
13 jective with a demonstrated intent to reduce the
14 economic, social, and environmental impact of
15 the adverse effects of climate change.

16 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The term “qualified cli-
17 mate change adaptation purpose” includes in-
18 frastructure resiliency and mitigation, improved
19 disaster response, and ecosystem protection,
20 which may be accomplished through activities
21 or projects with objectives such as—

22 (i) reducing risks or enhancing resil-
23 ience to sea level rise, extreme weather
24 events, fires, drought, flooding, heat island

1 impacts, or worsened indoor or outdoor air
2 quality;

3 (ii) protecting farms and the food and
4 water supply from climate impacts;

5 (iii) reducing risks of food insecurity
6 that would otherwise result from climate
7 change;

8 (iv) ensuring that disaster and public
9 health plans account for more severe
10 weather;

11 (v) reducing risks from geographical
12 change to disease vectors, pathogens,
13 invasive species, and the distribution of
14 pests; and

15 (vi) other projects or activities, as de-
16 termined to be appropriate by the Commis-
17 sion.

18 (10) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
19 means the Secretary of Commerce.

20 (11) STATE.—The term “State” means a State,
21 the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of
22 Puerto Rico, and any other territory or possession of
23 the United States.

**TITLE I—CLIMATE CHANGE
ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY
COMMISSION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a commission to be known as the “Climate Change Advisory Commission”.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be composed of 11 members—

(1) who shall be selected from the public and private sectors and institutions of higher education with a demonstrated expertise in climate mitigation solutions and commitment to the implementation of those solutions; and

(2) of whom—

(A) 3 shall be appointed by the President, in consultation with the National Climate Task Force;

(B) 2 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(C) 2 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(D) 2 shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; and

1 (E) 2 shall be appointed by the minority
2 leader of the Senate.

3 (c) TERMS.—Each member of the Commission shall
4 be appointed for a 5-year term.

5 (d) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Each member of the
6 Commission shall be appointed not later than 90 days
7 after the date of enactment of this Act.

8 (e) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission—

9 (1) shall not affect the powers of the Commis-
10 sion; and

11 (2) shall be filled in the manner in which the
12 original appointment was made.

13 (f) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after
14 the date on which all members of the Commission have
15 been appointed, the Commission shall—

16 (1) virtually hold the initial meeting of the
17 Commission; and

18 (2) at that initial meeting, determine the reg-
19 ular location of meetings of the Commission.

20 (g) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet—

21 (1) at the call of the Chairperson; or

22 (2) by a call of a simple majority of the mem-
23 bership of the Commission.

1 (h) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the
 2 Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser num-
 3 ber of members may hold hearings.

4 (i) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The
 5 Commission shall select a Chairperson and Vice Chair-
 6 person from among the members of the Commission.

7 **SEC. 102. DUTIES.**

8 The Commission shall—

9 (1) establish and, as necessary, update rec-
 10 ommendations, frameworks, and guidelines for a
 11 Federal investment program funded by revenue from
 12 climate change obligations issued under section 301
 13 for eligible entities that—

14 (A) improve and adapt energy, transpor-
 15 tation, water, and general infrastructure im-
 16 pacted or expected to be impacted due to cli-
 17 mate variability; and

18 (B) integrate best available science, data,
 19 standards, models, and trends that improve the
 20 resiliency of infrastructure systems described in
 21 subparagraph (A); and

22 (2) identify and, as necessary, update categories
 23 of the most cost-effective investments and projects
 24 that emphasize multiple benefits to human health,
 25 commerce, and ecosystems while ensuring that the

1 Commission engages in early, meaningful, and cul-
2 turally and linguistically appropriate community
3 stakeholder involvement opportunities during the de-
4 velopment of the recommendations, frameworks, and
5 guidelines established under paragraph (1).

6 **SEC. 103. COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

7 (a) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

8 (1) NON-FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of
9 the Commission who is not an officer or employee of
10 the Federal Government shall be compensated at a
11 rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate
12 of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive
13 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United
14 States Code, for each day (including travel time)
15 during which the member is engaged in the perform-
16 ance of the duties of the Commission.

17 (2) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of the
18 Commission who is an officer or employee of the
19 Federal Government shall serve without compensa-
20 tion in addition to the compensation received for the
21 services of the member as an officer or employee of
22 the Federal Government.

23 (b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Commis-
24 sion shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem
25 in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee

1 of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title
2 5, United States Code, while away from the home or reg-
3 ular place of business of the member in the performance
4 of the duties of the Commission.

5 (c) STAFF.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairperson of the
7 Commission, or a simple majority of the membership
8 of the Commission, may, without regard to the civil
9 service laws (including regulations), appoint and ter-
10minate such personnel as are necessary to enable the
11 Commission to perform the duties of the Commis-
12sion.

13 (2) COMPENSATION.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
15 subparagraph (B), the Chairperson of the Com-
16mission may fix the compensation of personnel
17without regard to the provisions of chapter 51
18and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5,
19United States Code, relating to classification of
20positions and General Schedule pay rates.

21 (B) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The rate of
22pay for personnel shall not exceed the rate pay-
23able for level V of the Executive Schedule under
24section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

1 **SEC. 104. FUNDING.**

2 The Commission shall use amounts in the Fund to
3 pay for all administrative expenses of the Commission, not
4 to exceed 3 percent of the amounts made available for
5 projects for a qualified climate change adaptation purpose
6 from the Fund during the applicable calendar year.

7 **SEC. 105. TERMINATION.**

8 The Commission shall terminate on the date that is
9 20 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

10 **TITLE II—CLIMATE CHANGE**
11 **RESILIENCY FUND**

12 **SEC. 201. CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY FUND.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the
15 Treasury of the United States the “Climate Change
16 Resiliency Fund”.

17 (2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use
19 not less than 40 percent of the amounts in the
20 Fund to fund projects that benefit communities
21 that experience disproportionate impacts from
22 climate change and climate change-causing pol-
23 lution, including environmental justice commu-
24 nities, frontline communities, and low-income
25 communities.

1 (B) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—All
2 amounts deposited in the Fund in accordance
3 with section 301(a) shall only be used—

4 (i) to fund new projects in accordance
5 with this section; and

6 (ii) for administrative expenses of the
7 Commission authorized under section 104.

8 (3) RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY.—The Sec-
9 retary shall take such action as the Secretary deter-
10 mines necessary to assist in implementing the Fund
11 in accordance with this section, which shall include
12 consulting with relevant Federal agencies.

13 (b) CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECTS.—
14 The Secretary, in consultation with the Commission, shall
15 carry out a program to provide funds to eligible entities
16 to carry out projects for a qualified climate change adapta-
17 tion purpose.

18 (c) APPLICATIONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity desiring
20 funds under subsection (b) shall, with respect to a
21 project, submit to the Secretary an application at
22 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
23 formation as the Secretary may require.

24 (2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted by
25 an eligible entity under this subsection shall include

1 data relating to any benefits the eligible entity ex-
 2 pects the project to provide to the community in
 3 which the applicable project is performed, such as—

4 (A) an economic impact;

5 (B) improvements to public health; or

6 (C) permanent environmental preservation

7 or restoration.

8 (3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
 9 shall offer technical assistance to eligible entities
 10 preparing applications under this subsection.

11 (d) SELECTION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select el-
 13 igible entities to receive funds to carry out projects
 14 under this section based on criteria and guidelines
 15 determined and published by the Commission under
 16 section 102.

17 (2) PRIORITY.—In selecting eligible entities
 18 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give pri-
 19 ority to eligible entities planning to perform projects
 20 that will serve areas with the greatest need.

21 (e) NON-FEDERAL FUNDING REQUIREMENT.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2)
 23 and (3), in order to receive funds under this section,
 24 an eligible entity shall provide funds for a project in

1 an amount that is equal to not less than 25 percent
2 of the amount of funds provided under this section.

3 (2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive all or
4 part of the matching requirement under paragraph
5 (1) for an eligible entity, especially an eligible entity
6 performing a project benefitting a low-income com-
7 munity, frontline community, or an environmental
8 justice community, if the Secretary determines
9 that—

10 (A) there are no reasonable means avail-
11 able through which the eligible entity can meet
12 the matching requirement; or

13 (B) the probable benefit of the project out-
14 weighs the public interest of the matching re-
15 quirement.

16 (3) NO-MATCH PROJECTS.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
18 award not less than 10 percent and not more
19 than 40 percent of the total funds awarded
20 under this section to eligible entities to which
21 the matching requirement under paragraph (1)
22 shall not apply.

23 (B) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give
24 priority for funding under subparagraph (A) to
25 an eligible entity performing a project in a com-

1 munity experiencing a disproportionate impact
2 of climate change, including—

3 (i) an environmental justice commu-
4 nity;

5 (ii) a low-income community;

6 (iii) a community of color; or

7 (iv) a frontline community.

8 (f) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL LAW.—Nothing in
9 this Act shall be construed to waive the requirements of
10 any Federal law or regulation that would otherwise apply
11 to a project that receives funds under this section.

12 **SEC. 202. COMPLIANCE WITH DAVIS-BACON ACT.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—All laborers and mechanics em-
14 ployed by contractors and subcontractors on projects fund-
15 ed directly by, or assisted in whole or in part by and
16 through, the Fund shall be paid wages at rates not less
17 than those prevailing on projects of a character similar
18 in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor
19 in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of part
20 A of title 40, United States Code.

21 (b) LABOR STANDARDS.—With respect to the labor
22 standards described in this section, the Secretary of Labor
23 shall have the authority and functions set forth in Reorga-
24 nization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1267; 5

1 U.S.C. App.) and section 3145 of title 40, United States
2 Code.

3 **SEC. 203. FUNDING.**

4 To carry out the program under section 201(b), the
5 Secretary, in addition to amounts in the Fund, may use
6 amounts that have been made available to the Secretary
7 and are not otherwise obligated.

8 **TITLE III—REVENUE**

9 **SEC. 301. CLIMATE CHANGE OBLIGATIONS.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
12 Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate (referred to in this
13 title as the “Secretary”) shall issue obligations under
14 chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code (referred to
15 in this title as “climate change obligations”), the proceeds
16 from which shall be deposited in the Fund.

17 (b) FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.—Payment of interest
18 and principal with respect to any climate change obliga-
19 tion issued under this section shall be made from the gen-
20 eral fund of the Treasury of the United States and shall
21 be backed by the full faith and credit of the United States.

22 (c) EXEMPTION FROM LOCAL TAXATION.—All cli-
23 mate change obligations issued by the Secretary, and the
24 interest on or credits with respect to such obligations,

1 shall not be subject to taxation by any State, county, mu-
2 nicipality, or local taxing authority.

3 (d) AMOUNT OF CLIMATE CHANGE OBLIGATIONS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
5 graph (2), the aggregate face amount of the climate
6 change obligations issued annually under this section
7 shall be \$200,000,000.

8 (2) ADDITIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—For any cal-
9 endar year in which all of the obligations issued pur-
10 suant to paragraph (1) have been purchased, the
11 Secretary may issue additional climate change obli-
12 gations during such calendar year, provided that the
13 aggregate face amount of such additional obligations
14 does not exceed \$800,000,000.

15 (e) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall use funds made
16 available to the Secretary and not otherwise obligated to
17 carry out the purposes of this section.

18 **SEC. 302. PROMOTION.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall promote the
20 purchase of climate change obligations through such
21 means as are determined appropriate by the Secretary,
22 with the amount expended for such promotion not to ex-
23 ceed \$10,000,000 for any fiscal year during the period of
24 fiscal years 2026 through 2030.

1 (b) DONATED ADVERTISING.—In addition to any ad-
2 vertising paid for with funds made available under sub-
3 section (c), the Secretary shall solicit and may accept the
4 donation of advertising relating to the sale of climate
5 change obligations.

6 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For each
7 fiscal year during the period of fiscal years 2026 through
8 2030, there is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000
9 to carry out the purposes of this section.

○