

Public Law 104-147
104th Congress

An Act

To amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to extend the authorizations of appropriations through fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

May 24, 1996

[H.R. 1743]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Section 102 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10301) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, productivity of natural resources and agricultural systems,” after “environmental quality”;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) long-term planning and policy development are essential to ensure the availability of an abundant supply of high quality water for domestic and other uses; and

“(9) the States must have the research and problem-solving capacity necessary to effectively manage their water resources.”.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

Section 103 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10302) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking “to”; and

(B) by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) encourage long-term planning and research to meet future water management, quality, and supply challenges.”.

SEC. 3. GRANTS; MATCHING FUNDS.

Section 104(c) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(c)) is amended by striking "one non-Federal dollar" and all that follows through "thereafter" and inserting "2 non-Federal dollars for every 1 Federal dollar".

SEC. 4. GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking "of \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1989, through September 30, 1995," and inserting "of \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 1996, \$7,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 and 1998, and \$9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 and 2000".

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR RESEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE NATURE.

The first sentence of section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended by striking "of \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, and 1995" and inserting "of \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2000".

SEC. 6. COORDINATION.

Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) COORDINATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out this Act, the Secretary—

"(A) shall encourage other Federal departments, agencies (including agencies within the Department of the Interior), and instrumentalities to use and take advantage of the expertise and capabilities that are available through the institutes established by this section, on a cooperative or other basis;

"(B) shall encourage cooperation and coordination with other Federal programs concerned with water resources problems and issues;

"(C) may enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5);

"(D) may accept funds from other Federal departments, agencies (including agencies within the Department of the Interior), and instrumentalities to pay for and add to grants made, and contracts entered into, by the Secretary;

"(E) may promulgate such regulations as the Secretary considers appropriate; and

"(F) may support a program of internships for qualified individuals at the undergraduate and graduate levels to carry out the educational and training objectives of this Act.

“(2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall report to Congress annually on coordination efforts with other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities under paragraph (1).

“(3) RELATIONSHIP TO STATE RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act shall preempt the rights and authorities of any State with respect to its water resources or management of those resources.”.

Approved May 24, 1996.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 1743:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 104-242 (Comm. on Resources).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 104-252 (Comm. on Environment and Public Works).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 141 (1995): Oct. 17, considered and passed House.

Vol. 142 (1996): May 3, considered and passed Senate.

May 14, House concurred in Senate amendment.