

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1626

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 6, 2025

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

1 **SEC. 2. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS UNDER FLOOD LEVEL OB-**
2 **SERVATION, OPERATIONS, AND DECISION**
3 **SUPPORT ACT.**

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

7 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
8 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

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

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

14 “(A) produces significant quantities of rain
15 or snow; and

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

18 “(2) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER FLOODING EVENT.—
19 The term ‘atmospheric river flooding event’ means
20 an atmospheric river that—

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

24 “(B) is of particular concern to human
25 health, property, and the economy, as deter-
26 mined by the Secretary of Commerce.

1 “(3) EXTREME PRECIPITATION EVENT.—The
 2 term ‘extreme precipitation event’ means precipita-
 3 tion quantities exceeding the 5-year annual recur-
 4 rence interval for a specific location.”.

5 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 12(d)(1) of the Flood
 6 Level Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act
 7 (15 U.S.C. 9707(d)(1)) is amended by inserting “, such
 8 as precipitation resulting from hurricanes, atmospheric
 9 river flooding events, and extreme precipitation events”
 10 before the period at the end.

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

13 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the National Land-
 14 slide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3101) is amended—

15 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through
 16 (11) as paragraphs (7), (8), (10), (11), (13), (14),
 17 (15), and (16), respectively;

18 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
 19 lowing:

20 “(4) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER.—The term ‘atmos-
 21 pheric river’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
 22 tion 12(a) of the Flood Level Observation, Oper-
 23 ations, and Decision Support Act (15 U.S.C.
 24 9707(a)).

1 “(5) ATMOSPHERIC RIVER FLOODING EVENT.—

2 The term ‘atmospheric river flooding event’ has the
3 meaning given the term in section 12(a) of the
4 Flood Level Observation, Operations, and Decision
5 Support Act (15 U.S.C. 9707(a)).

6 “(6) EXTREME PRECIPITATION EVENT.—The
7 term ‘extreme precipitation event’ has the meaning
8 given the term in section 12(a) of the Flood Level
9 Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act
10 (15 U.S.C. 9707(a)).”;

11 (3) by inserting after paragraph (8), as so re-
12 designated, the following:

13 “(9) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
14 The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the
15 meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the
16 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
17 1001(a)).”;

18 (4) by inserting after paragraph (11), as so re-
19 designated, the following:

20 “(12) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The
21 term ‘Native Hawaiian organization’ has the mean-
22 ing given the term in section 6207 of the Elemen-
23 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
24 U.S.C. 7517), except that the term includes the De-

partment 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”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),
 3 by striking “local, and Tribal governments
 4 and decisionmakers” and inserting “and
 5 local governments, Indian tribes, Tribal or-
 6 ganizations, Native Hawaiian organiza-
 7 tions, and other decisionmakers”;

8 (ii) by striking clause (iii) and insert-
 9 ing the following:

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

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

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

16 “(iv) reducing losses from landslides,
 17 including the threats caused by atmos-
 18 pheric rivers and other extreme precipita-
 19 tion events; and”; and

20 (C) in subparagraph (B)—

21 (i) in clause (i), by striking “local,
 22 and Tribal officials” and inserting “and
 23 local officials, Indian tribes, Tribal organi-
 24 zations, and Native Hawaiian organiza-
 25 tions”; 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-

1 scribed in subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv) and other
 2 stakeholders to establish and support emer-
 3 gency response procedures, as appropriate.”.

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

7 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
 8 through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respec-
 9 tively, and indenting appropriately;

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

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying”;

14 (C) in subparagraph (A) (as so des-
 15 ignated)—

16 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i)
 17 (as so redesignated), by inserting “Native
 18 Hawaiian organizations,” before “and In-
 19 dian tribes”;

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

22 (iii) in clause (iii) (as so redesign-
 23 ated), by striking the period at the end
 24 and inserting “; and”; and

1 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(iv) to improve real-time risk man-
4 agement during landslide events, including
5 with respect to landslide events caused
6 by—

7 “(I) hydrology or changes in hy-
8 drology that may include erosion,
9 drought, or other characteristics that
10 could impact landslide risk;

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

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

18 “(IV) data-poor areas or hazards
19 with poor monitoring that could con-
20 tribute to increased landslide risk; or

21 “(V) thawing permafrost and gla-
22 cial retreat causing destabilization of
23 slopes.”; and

24 (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) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
 7 ON LANDSLIDE HAZARDS.—Section 3(c)(2) of the
 8 National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.
 9 3102(c)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 “(J) The Administrator of the National
 12 Aeronautics and Space Administration.”.

13 (9) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 3(d)(2)(B)
 14 of the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43
 15 U.S.C. 3102(d)(2)(B)) is amended—

16 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “geological”;
 17 and

18 (B) in clause (vi), by striking “local, and
 19 Tribal emergency management agencies” and
 20 inserting “and local emergency management
 21 agencies and emergency management agencies
 22 of Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organiza-
 23 tions”.

1 (10) REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—Section 3 of
 2 the National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.
 3 3102) is amended—

4 (A) by redesignating subsections (e)
 5 through (i) as subsections (f) through (j), re-
 6 spectively; and

7 (B) by inserting after subsection (d) the
 8 following:

9 “(e) REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable
 11 after the date of enactment of the National Land-
 12 slide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2025,
 13 the Secretary shall establish in the State of Alaska
 14 and other regions, as the Secretary determines to be
 15 appropriate, a regional partnership with an eligible
 16 partner described in paragraph (2).

17 “(2) ELIGIBLE PARTNERS.—An organization or
 18 institution of higher education with expertise in
 19 landslide mapping, research, and monitoring shall be
 20 eligible for a regional partnership under paragraph
 21 (1).

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

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

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

3 “(C) align interagency landslide moni-
 4 toring efforts.”.

5 (11) GRANT PROGRAMS.—Section 3 of the Na-
 6 tional Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102)
 7 is amended, in paragraph (1) of subsection (f) (as
 8 so redesignated)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking
 10 “local, and Tribal governments to research,
 11 map, assess” and inserting “and local govern-
 12 ments, Indian tribes, Tribal organizations, and
 13 Native Hawaiian organizations to research,
 14 map, assess, monitor”;

15 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

16 (i) in clause (i), by inserting “institu-
 17 tions of higher education described in sub-
 18 section (d)(2)(B)(iv),” before “and Indian
 19 tribes”; and

20 (ii) in clause (ii)—

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

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

1 “(II) in regions that have re-
 2 cently experienced loss of life due to
 3 landslides;” and

4 (C) in subparagraph (C)—

5 (i) in clause (i), by inserting “award-
 6 ed” after “grants”; and

7 (ii) in clause (ii), by striking “made”
 8 and inserting “or other accomplishments
 9 resulting”.

10 (12) SIGNIFICANT EVENTS.—Section 3 of the
 11 National Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C.
 12 3102) is amended, in subsection (h)(3) (as so redes-
 13 ignated), by striking “local, and Tribal partners”
 14 and inserting “and local partners, Indian tribes,
 15 Tribal organizations, and Native Hawaiian organiza-
 16 tions”.

17 (13) FUNDING.—Section 3 of the National
 18 Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3102) is
 19 amended, in subsection (i) (as so redesignated)—

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

22 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “there is
 23 authorized to be appropriated to the United
 24 States Geological Survey, \$25,000,000 to carry
 25 out this section” and inserting “from amounts

appropriated or otherwise made available to the United States Geological Survey, \$35,000,000 shall be used to carry out this section, of which not less than \$10,000,000 shall be used for the purchase, deployment, and repair of landslide early warning systems in high risk areas”.

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

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

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

“(D) the 3D Hydrography Program Working Group;”.

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

5 (4) FUNDING.—Section 5(e) of the National
6 Landslide Preparedness Act (43 U.S.C. 3104(e)) is
7 amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2030”.

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