

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide support to State governments in the production by those governments of quadrennial State climate assessments, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide support to State governments in the production by those governments of quadrennial State climate assessments, 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 “State Climate Assess-
5 ment Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT BY NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOS-**
2 **PHERIC ADMINISTRATION OF STATE CLI-**
3 **MATE ASSESSMENTS.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Na-
5 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall pro-
6 vide support to State governments, and entities and insti-
7 tutions partnering or collaborating with State govern-
8 ments under subsection (e), in the production by those
9 governments, at the election of those governments, of
10 quadrennial State climate assessments.

11 (b) **SUPPORT REQUIRED.**—In providing support
12 under subsection (a), the Administrator shall provide tech-
13 nical assistance and data.

14 (c) **CLIMATE ASSESSMENT COORDINATION OFFI-**
15 **CER.**—

16 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director of the National
17 Weather Service shall designate not fewer than one
18 climate assessment coordination officer at each
19 weather forecast office of the National Weather
20 Service to coordinate the support required under
21 subsection (a).

22 (2) **RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The officer designated
23 under paragraph (1) shall liaise and collaborate with
24 State and local governments and entities and institu-
25 tions partnering or collaborating with State govern-
26 ments under subsection (e) to facilitate the sharing

1 of information and the development of quadrennial
2 State climate assessments.

3 (d) ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT.—A State govern-
4 ment that elects to produce a quadrennial State climate
5 assessment under subsection (a) shall, as a condition of
6 the receipt of support under that subsection, ensure that
7 the assessment—

8 (1) includes an analysis of the effects of global
9 change on the natural environment, agriculture, en-
10 ergy production and use, land and water resources,
11 transportation, human health and welfare, human
12 social systems, and biological diversity in that State;

13 (2) includes an analysis of current trends in
14 global change, both human-induced and natural, and
15 how those trends impact that State, and a projection
16 of major trends for the next 25 to 100 years in that
17 State; and

18 (3) integrates, evaluates, and interprets the
19 findings of the assessment and discusses the sci-
20 entific uncertainties associated with such findings.

21 (e) COLLABORATION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—A State government that
23 elects to produce a quadrennial State climate assess-
24 ment under subsection (a) may collaborate or part-
25 ner with private entities and institutions of higher

1 education (or a consortia thereof) in developing and
2 producing such quadrennial State climate assess-
3 ment.

4 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION DE-
5 FINED.—In this subsection, the term “institution of
6 higher education” has the meaning given that term
7 in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of
8 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).