

## Status of S 2355 Climate Change Adaptation Act

### ALL BILL ACTIONS

S 2355

Sponsor: Cantwell (D-Wash.)

Brief Title: Climate Change Adaptation Act

Official Title: A bill to amend the National Climate Program Act to enhance the ability of the United States to develop and implement climate change adaptation programs and policies, and for other purposes.

Introduced: November 14, 2007

Committees: Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation

Cosponsors: 3 Total (3 Democrats)

Kerry, J. (D-Mass.)Klobuchar (D-Minn.)Lautenberg (D-N.J.)

Nov. 14, 2007 — Read twice and referred to: Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation.

Congressional Record p. S14398

Nov. 14, 2007 — Cantwell, D-Wash., Senate speech: Introduces the Climate Change Adaptation Act. (Text of bill.) Congressional Record p. S14401-S14403

Dec. 3, 2007 — Additional cosponsor(s): 2 Kerry, J. (D-Mass.) Klobuchar (D-Minn.)

Dec. 4, 2007 — Full committee consideration and markup held by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

Dec. 4, 2007 — Committee Vote: En Bloc Bills and Nominations — Vote to Report

En bloc approval of:

**S 1581**, which would establish an interagency committee and program on ocean acidification. The committee would be comprised of senior representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, and any other agencies deemed appropriate. The committee would develop a strategic research and implementation plan for federal activities, within one year of the bill's enactment, and submit a report on the plan to Congress. The plan would provide for interdisciplinary research to examine the effects of acidification on marine ecosystems. It would also establish 10-year goals, priorities and guidelines for coordinated activities on acidification research and forecasting.

The bill also would establish an acidification program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to implement activities recommended by the committee. It would establish outreach activities, education opportunities, and a monitoring system of acidic levels in the ocean. It would also provide grants for research projects that explore the effects of ocean acidification.

A Lautenberg, D-N.J., manager's amendment was adopted in the same en-bloc action. It changed authorization levels in the bill to \$10 million for fiscal 2009, \$15 million for fiscal 2010, \$20 million for fiscal 2011, \$25 million for fiscal 2012, and \$30 million for fiscal 2013. As introduced, the bill would have authorized \$30 million for each of fiscal 2008 through fiscal 2012, and such sums as necessary after fiscal 2012.

**S 2307**, which would amend the Global Change Research Act of 1990 (PL 101-606) to direct the National Global Change Research Committee to create a 10-year strategic plan for the National Global Change Research Program. The bill would establish a "Global Change Research Coordination Office" for the program. The office would manage global change research activities and review funding for partnership projects. It also would review and provide recommendations on annual appropriations requests from agencies participating in the program. The bill would require the committee to develop a list of priority areas for research and development on climate change that are not adequately addressed by federal agencies. It would authorize \$30 million in fiscal 2008 for research in those areas through the Science and Technology Policy Institute at the National Science Foundation. It would require the director of the National Science Foundation and the administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences to complete a study of the current status of ice sheet melt and movement, as caused by climate change, with implications for global sea level rise. It also would require a study on the state of the potential impacts of climate change on patterns of tropical cyclone development.

The bill would require the administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to implement a program to address aging work force issues in climate science and global change.

It would authorize \$4 million for each of fiscal 2008 through 2012 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy. The bill would amend the National Climate Program Act (PL 95-367) to establish a National Climate Service, which would be required within a year of the bill's enactment. The service would include a national center and a network of regional and local facilities for operational climate monitoring and prediction. The bill would require a National Climate Service Advisory Council be established. The secretary of Commerce would be required to submit an annual report to the president and authorizing committees of Congress on the achievements of the National Climate Service during the previous year. The bill would amend the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (PL 94-282) to create a Science and Technology Assessment Service within the legislative branch. It would require the secretary of Commerce to initiate a program to develop standards and measurement technologies to calculate greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, transportation, and facilities using remote sensing technology. It would require a program to perform and support research on global climate change standards and processes. It would authorize \$15 million for each of fiscal 2008 to fiscal 2010. It would require the secretary of Commerce to create a program of specific research on abrupt climate change. It would authorize up to \$10 million for fiscal 2009 to fiscal 2014 for the program.

A Kerry, D-Mass., manager's amendment, adopted in the same en-bloc action, would require the secretary of Commerce to execute an agreement with the National Research Council to examine research and the effectiveness of ocean iron fertilization. The amendment would change the name of the integrated program office required under the bill to a "Global Change Research Coordination Office." It also would require the National Academy of Public Administration, within two years of the bill's enactment, to conduct an independent review of the Global Change Research Act of 1990 and the National Climate Service and to report the results of the review to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House Committee on Science and Technology.

It also would require an independent review of the process undertaken by the Global Change Research Program in developing its strategic plan and report the results to the congressional committees. It would authorize \$1 million for each of fiscal 2009 to fiscal 2013 for the reviews. The amendment altered authorization levels in the bill for the National Climate Service to \$300 million in fiscal 2009, \$350 million in fiscal 2010, \$400 million in fiscal 2011, \$450 million in fiscal 2012 and \$500 million in fiscal 2013.

**S 2355**, which would require the president to prepare a strategy for addressing the impacts of climate change in the United States. The bill would direct the secretary of Commerce to conduct regional assessments on the vulnerability of ocean and coastal resources. The bill would also require a coastal and ocean adaptation plan that would include a national coastal and ocean adaptation plan made up of individual regional adaptation plans with ways to address coastal and ocean impacts associated with climate change, ocean acidification and sea level rise. The plan would include, among others, recommendations regarding areas identified as high risk, mitigation incentives and coastal hazards protocols to reduce risk of damage to lives and properties.

Dec. 4, 2007 — Committee Vote: Climate Change Adaptation — Manager's Amendment Cantwell, D-Wash. — Amendment that would change authorization levels in the bill. It would authorize \$25 million annually for fiscal 2009-2013 for a National Strategic Plan for Climate Change Adaptation. It would authorize \$75 million annually for fiscal 2009-2013 for regional assessments of the vulnerability of coastal and ocean areas. It would authorize \$150 million annually for fiscal 2009-2013 for a coastal and ocean adaptation plan. Seventy-five percent of the funds would go to state agencies. The amendment also would remove a requirement in the bill that executive branch departments and agencies create their own strategic plan with respect to their own policies, based on the national plan. It also would make technical changes to the bill. Adopted by voice vote.

Dec. 5, 2007 — Additional cosponsor(s): 1  
Lautenberg (D-N.J.)