

The original documents are located in Box 8, folder “1974/10/05 S3320 Weather Modification” of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Exact duplicates within this folder were not digitized.

APPROVED
OCT 5 - 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ACTION

Last Day - October 8

October 4, 1974

Posted
10/5

To ARCHIVES
10/7

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KEN COLE *C*

SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill S. 3320

Attached for your consideration is Senate bill, S. 3320, Weather modification, which extends the authorization for appropriation of funds to carry out a program of reporting on weather modification activities.

Roy Ash recommends approval of S. 3320 and provides additional background information in his enrolled bill report (Tab A).

We have checked with the Counsel's office (Chapman), Bill Timmons, and Paul Theis who concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Senate bill, S. 3320 (Tab B).



APPROVED
OCT 5 - 1974

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OCT 2 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather modification
Sponsors - Sen. Magnuson (D) Washington and
Sen. Cotton (R) New Hampshire

Last Day for Action

October 8, 1974 - Tuesday

Purpose

To extend the authorization for a program of reporting on weather modification activities.

Agency Recommendations

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Office of Management and Budget | Approval |
| Department of Commerce | Approval |
| National Science Foundation | No objection |

Discussion

S. 3320 would extend the authorization for appropriation for funds to carry out a program of reporting on weather modification activities pursuant to P.L. 92-205. The program, begun in 1966 by NSF, was conducted by them until 1972. In 1972, NOAA began the present program under P.L. 92-205 which was enacted in 1971.

The authorization level in P.L. 92-205 is \$200,000 for each fiscal year. The enrolled bill would extend that same level through fiscal years 1975, 1976, and 1977. Commerce states in its views letter on the enrolled bill that their budget for fiscal year 1975 provides \$100,000 for reporting weather modification activities and that they have recommended the same amount for fiscal year 1976.

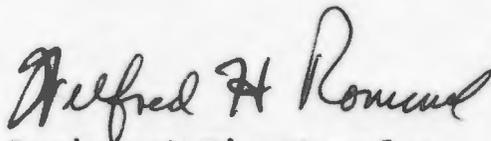


In its report on the enrolled bill, the Senate Committee on Commerce stated:

"In accordance with Public Law 92-205, summaries of records on reported weather modification activities that take place in the United States shall be published from time to time. To date, NOAA has published and distributed two reports covering the information submitted by the weather modification operators. The summaries include analyses of data on project purpose, sponsors, operators, phenomena to be modified, target locations, target areas, and modification techniques, apparatus, agents, and dispersing rates. Additional information is provided on modification days, missions, duration of seeding activities, and amounts of seeding agents.

"There is a continuing need for detailed knowledge of attempts to modify the weather. The present NOAA program for the reporting of weather modification activities in the United States is both effective and useful. This program provides the only source of factual and complete information on all such activities in this country and the reported information is available to the public as well as to all Federal agencies."

The enrolled bill is identical to a bill submitted to Congress by Commerce in March of 1974. The program of weather modification reporting provides a source of factual and useful information not otherwise available. Its continuance at the present level is desirable.


Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OCT 2 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

**Subject: Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather modification
Sponsors - Sen. Magnuson (D) Washington and
Sen. Cotton (R) New Hampshire**

Last Day for Action

October 8, 1974 - Tuesday

Purpose

To extend the authorization for a program of reporting on weather modification activities.

Agency Recommendations

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Office of Management and Budget | Approval |
| Department of Commerce | Approval |
| National Science Foundation | No objection |

Discussion

S. 3320 would extend the authorization for appropriation for funds to carry out a program of reporting on weather modification activities pursuant to P.L. 92-205. The program, begun in 1966 by NSF, was conducted by them until 1972. In 1972, NOAA began the present program under P.L. 92-205 which was enacted in 1971.

The authorization level in P.L. 92-205 is \$200,000 for each fiscal year. The enrolled bill would extend that same level through fiscal years 1975, 1976, and 1977. Commerce states in its views letter on the enrolled bill that their budget for fiscal year 1975 provides \$100,000 for reporting weather modification activities and that they have recommended the same amount for fiscal year 1976.

In its report on the enrolled bill, the Senate Committee on Commerce stated:

"In accordance with Public Law 92-205, summaries of records on reported weather modification activities that take place in the United States shall be published from time to time. To date, NOAA has published and distributed two reports covering the information submitted by the weather modification operators. The summaries include analyses of data on project purpose, sponsors, operators, phenomena to be modified, target locations, target areas, and modification techniques, apparatus, agents, and dispersing rates. Additional information is provided on modification days, missions, duration of seeding activities, and amounts of seeding agents.

"There is a continuing need for detailed knowledge of attempts to modify the weather. The present NOAA program for the reporting of weather modification activities in the United States is both effective and useful. This program provides the only source of factual and complete information on all such activities in this country and the reported information is available to the public as well as to all Federal agencies."

The enrolled bill is identical to a bill submitted to Congress by Commerce in March of 1974. The program of weather modification reporting provides a source of factual and useful information not otherwise available. Its continuance at the present level is desirable.

(signed) Wilfred H. Roumel

Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

Last Day - October 8

October 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: KEN COLE
SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320

Attached for your consideration is Senate bill, S. 3320, Weather modification, which extends the authorization for appropriation of funds to carry out a program of reporting on weather modification activities.

Roy Ash recommends approval of S. 3320 and provides additional background information in his enrolled bill report (Tab A).

We have checked with the Counsel's office, (Chapman), Bill Timmons, and Paul Theis who concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Senate bill, S. 3320 (Tab B).

Last Day - October 8

October 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: KEN COLE
SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320

Attached for your consideration is Senate bill, S. 3320, Weather modification, which extends the authorization for appropriation of funds to carry out a program of reporting on weather modification activities.

Roy Ash recommends approval of S. 3320 and provides additional background information in his enrolled bill report (Tab A).

We have checked with the Counsel's office, (Chapman), Bill Timmons, and Paul Theis who concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Senate bill, S. 3320 (Tab B).

Last Day - October 8

October 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: KEN COLE
SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320

Attached for your consideration is Senate bill, S. 3320, Weather modification, which extends the authorization for appropriation of funds to carry out a program of reporting on weather modification activities.

Roy Ash recommends approval of S. 3320 and provides additional background information in his enrolled bill report (Tab A).

We have checked with the Counsel's office, (Chapman), Bill Timmons, and Paul Theis who concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Senate bill, S. 3320 (Tab B).

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 624

Date: October 2, 1974

Time: 2:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Michael Duval
 Phil Buchen
 Bill Timmons
 Paul Theis

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks
Jerry Jones

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, October 4, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather modification

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR.
For the President



**GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**
Washington, D.C. 20230

SEP 27 1974

Honorable Roy L. Ash
Director, Office of Management
and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Attention: Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Dear Mr. Ash:

This is in reply to your request for the views of this Department concerning S. 3320, an enrolled enactment

"To extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities."

The Act of December 18, 1971 (85 Stat. 735; 15 U. S. C. 330-330e) provides that no person may engage, or attempt to engage, in weather modification activities in the United States unless he submits to the Secretary of Commerce reports on such activities. It also requires the Secretary to maintain a record of such activities and to publish summaries thereof from time to time. Section 6 of the Act authorized appropriations through fiscal year 1974 to carry out the provisions of the Act.

S. 3320 amends section 6 of the Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for three additional years, through fiscal year 1977.

S. 3320 was introduced at the request of this Department, and we recommend Presidential approval thereof.

This legislation would, in effect, continue the present level of authorized appropriations of \$200,000 for each of the fiscal years 1975, 1976, and 1977. However, the Department's Budget for fiscal year 1975 provides \$100,000 for reporting of weather modification activities, and we have recommended the same amount in our Budget for fiscal year 1976.

Sincerely,

Karl E. Bakke

General Counsel

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550



OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

September 27, 1974

Mr. Wilfred H. Rommel
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Mr. Rommel:

This is in reply to your communication of September 25, 1974,
requesting the comments of the National Science Foundation on
Enrolled Bill S. 3320, "To extend the appropriation authorization
for reporting of weather modification activities."

The Foundation has no objection to approval of the Enrolled Bill by
the President.

Sincerely yours,

R. L. Busby
for H. Guyford Stever
Director

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 624

Date: October 2, 1974

Time: 2:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION: ✓ Michael Duval
Phil Buchen
Bill Timmons
Paul Theis

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks
Jerry Jones

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, October 4, 1974 Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather modification

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS: OK

Mike Duval

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 624

Date: October 2, 1974

Time: 2:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Michael Duval
✓ Phil Buchen
Bill Timmons
Paul Theis

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks
Jerry Jones

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, October 4, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather modification

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

*No objection
W.C.*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 3, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. WARREN HENDRIKS

FROM: WILLIAM E. TIMMONS *W. E. Timmons*

SUBJECT: Action Memorandum - Log No. 624
Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather Modification

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs in the attached proposal and has no additional recommendations.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 624

Date: October 2, 1974

Time: 2:30 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Michael Duval
Phil Buchen
✓ Bill Timmons
Paul Theis

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks
Jerry Jones

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, October 4, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Bill S. 3320 - Weather modification

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks
For the President

Calendar No. 923

93D CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 93-952

REPORTING WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES

JUNE 21, 1974.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MAGNUSON, from the Committee on Commerce,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3320]

The Committee on Commerce, to which was referred the bill (S. 3320), to extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION

S. 3320 would recognize, as national policy, congressional support for continuation of the present reporting program on domestic weather modification activities. The bill would extend the authorization for appropriation of not more than \$200,000 per year through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, for Public Law 92-205, "An Act to provide for the reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government." Section 6 of Public Law 92-205 authorizes \$200,000 in appropriations to carry out the reporting functions under the Act through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974.

This bill recognizes the continuing need to maintain a central repository of experimental and operational weather modification attempts in the United States. Such recordkeeping is critical for gauging the scope of these activities, for determining the possibility of duplicative operations or of interference with another project, for providing a data base for checking both desirable and undesirable atmospheric changes against the reported activities, and for providing a single source of information on the safety and environmental factors used in weather modification activities in the United States.

BACKGROUND AND NEED

In 1966, the National Science Foundation (NSF) began collecting reports on weather modification activities under Public Law 85-510. Two years later, Congress enacted Public Law 90-407, part of which repealed the powers of the Foundation to require persons to report. During those 2 years, NSF published summaries of the reported activities covering fiscal years 1967 and 1968. These summaries were included in the NSF annual reports on weather modification that were submitted to the President and Congress.

From 1968 until passage of Public Law 92-205 in 1971, no Federal department or agency was authorized to collect activity reports. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has administered, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, a weather modification reporting program authorized by Public Law 92-205. This law requires the reporting of all nonfederally sponsored weather modification activities in the United States and its territories. Rules for carrying out this legislation were published by NOAA in the Federal Register (vol. 37, No. 208), with an effective date of November 1, 1972.

Amendments to these reporting rules were published in the Federal register (vol. 39, No. 10) and went into effect on February 15, 1974. These amendments include questions on operational safeguards and environmental impact as well as a statement covering interference with Federal weather modification research projects.

Federal agencies with weather modification projects also began to report their experimental activities to NOAA on November 1, 1973. This was the result of an agreement obtained by the Secretary of Commerce from appropriate agencies at the request of the Interdepartmental Committee for Atmospheric Sciences and the Office of Management and Budget. With the reporting of both federally and nonfederally sponsored activities, a central source of information currently exists on all weather modification projects being conducted in the United States.

In accordance with Public Law 92-205, summaries of records on reported weather modification activities that take place in the United States shall be published from time to time. To date, NOAA has published and distributed two reports covering the information submitted by the weather modification operators. The summaries include analyses of data on project purpose, sponsors, operators, phenomena to be modified, target locations, target areas, and modification techniques, apparatus, agents, and dispersing rates. Additional information is provided on modification days, missions, duration of seeding activities, and amounts of seeding agents.

There is a continuing need for detailed knowledge of attempts to modify the weather. The present NOAA program for the reporting of weather modification activities in the United States is both effective and useful. This program provides the only source of factual and complete information on all such activities in this country and the reported information is available to the public as well as to all Federal agencies.

The scope of activities in the United States includes projects to increase precipitation (rain or snow) for irrigation, power, and other water uses; to decrease hail in order to lessen crop damage; and to disperse fog at airports for maximum utilization of air transport. Since the state of the art of weather control is not yet an exact science, it is necessary to know the where, when, and how of such weather modification operations in the interests of the public welfare; the NOAA reporting program fulfills this information requirement. The utility of the reporting program has been proven by the demonstrated capability to answer congressional and other requests for general and specific information on weather modification activities.

There were 65 non-Federally sponsored and 2 Federally sponsored projects reported to NOAA for the period November 1, 1972, to December 31, 1973. Analysis of the reports revealed several types of information. The 67 projects reported to NOAA show that about one-fourth were carried out by one commercial operator; nearly one-fourth were sponsored by local community associations; nearly half the activities were to increase precipitation; about one-sixth of the activities to decrease hail; and about one-fourth to disperse fog. Nineteen States had some activity; Oklahoma and California led in total numbers of activities. The total target area for all the reported activities was about 134,000 square miles; South Dakota and Utah had the largest target areas. Further examination of the reports indicated that most of the activities were ground-based; that the arc-type silver iodide burner was the commonest type of ground-based equipment; and that silver iodide was the most popular seeding agent inasmuch as it was used in 50 projects.

For the first 11 months of the reporting program, the total number of modification days (cumulative) was estimated at nearly 2,000 during the reporting period of 334 days. Ground-based weather modification apparatus operated for about 39,000 hours; airborne apparatus, for about 1,800 hours. The amount of silver iodide consumed was about 1,100 kilograms; the amount of dry ice dispensed to modify fog was about 9,300 kilograms.

With Federal agencies now reporting their field activities to NOAA and with the new requirement to report current safety practices and environmental considerations associated with weather modification projects, more complete information is becoming available. Consequently, continuation of the reporting program is necessary for obtaining an orderly inventory of weather modification activities. In addition, if an examination of a report indicates possible adverse effects from a proposed weather modification project or interference with another nearby project, the program allows for notification of such possibilities to the appropriate operators and State officials.

ESTIMATED COSTS

Pursuant to section 252 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970, the committee estimates that the cost of this act to the Federal Government will be not more than \$200,000 per year through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection 4 of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no changes are proposed is shown in roman):

THE ACT OF DECEMBER 18, 1971

(85 Stat. 735)

SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated \$150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, and \$200,000 each for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1973 [and] June 30, 1974, *June 30, 1975, June 30, 1976, and June 30, 1977*, to carry out the provisions of this Act.

TEXT OF S. 3320, AS REPORTED

A BILL To extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 6 of the Act of December 18, 1971 (85 Stat. 736; 15 U.S.C. 330e), is amended by striking the word "and" after "June 30, 1973," and inserting after "June 30, 1974," the words "June 30, 1975, June 30, 1976, and June 30, 1977,".

AGENCY COMMENTS

GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C., May 9, 1974.

HON. WARREN G. MAGNUSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your request for the views of this Department concerning S. 3320, a bill to extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities.

This legislation is identical to a draft of legislation submitted to the Congress on March 13, 1974 by the Secretary of Commerce.

The Department of Commerce continues to support enactment of this legislation for the reasons set forth in the statement of purpose and need which the Secretary submitted to the Congress with the draft bill. A copy of the statement of purpose and need is enclosed for your convenient reference.

We have been advised by the Office of Management and Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of our report to the Congress and further that enactment of S. 3320 would be consistent with the Administration's objectives.

Sincerely,

B. PARRETTE,
Deputy General Counsel.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND NEED SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

The proposed bill would extend the authorization of funds through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977, for Public Law 92-205, an act to provide for the reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government. Section 6 of Public Law 92-205 authorizes appropriations to carry out the reporting functions under the act only through the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974.

Pursuant to Public Law 92-205 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has underway an effective program for the reporting of nonfederally sponsored weather modification activities. A complementary program for reporting of federally sponsored weather modification activities has also been initiated by agreement with appropriate Federal agencies. NOAA's program provides the only source of factual and useful information on all such activities carried out in this country. In accordance with the act compilations of the reports are published on a periodic basis.

Continuation of the reporting program is critical for determining whether weather modification operations will be duplicative and will provide a data base for checking both desirable and undesirable atmospheric changes against the reported activities. All reported information is available to the public as well as to all Federal agencies. Under proposed amendments (Federal Register, vol. 38, No. 213—Nov. 6, 1973) to the rules implementing the present law, an orderly inventory of weather modification activities will provide a single source of information on the safety and environmental precautions used in weather modification activities in the United States. Furthermore, under the proposed rules, if an examination of a report indicates possible adverse effects from a proposed weather modification project or interference with another nearby project, the program allows for notification of such possibilities to the appropriate operators and State officials.

○

EXTENDING THE APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATION FOR REPORTING OF WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 15, 1974.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. STAGGERS, from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 15008]

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 15008) to extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That section 6 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government", approved December 18, 1971 (15 U.S.C. 330e), is amended by striking out "ending June 30, 1973, and June 30, 1974," and inserting in lieu thereof "1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, and 1977,".

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

H.R. 15008 provides a three-year extension of the authorization of appropriations for activities of the Secretary of Commerce under Public Law 92-205. That legislation required the reporting of weather modification activities in accordance with regulations of the Secretary. It authorized \$200,000 to be appropriated for fiscal year 1974. This bill (H.R. 15008) extends the authorizations at constant levels of \$200,000 for each of the fiscal years 1975, 1976, and 1977.

BACKGROUND

Hearings were held on the proposed legislation to amend Public Law 92-205 on July 2, 1974. On that same date, the Subcommittee on Communications and Power ordered the bill reported. On August 15, 1974, the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce ordered the bill reported by unanimous voice vote.

The bill (H.R. 15008) is identical to H.R. 14485, a bill introduced on April 30, 1974, by Messrs. Staggers and Devine at the request of the Administration.

NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The authorizations of appropriations for Public Law 92-205, "An Act to provide for the reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government," expired on June 30, 1974. Without further authorization of appropriations, the Secretary of Commerce acting through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will be unable to carry out the authorities vested in him by the Public Law. These authorities include the formulation of reporting requirements, the surveillance and enforcement of such requirements, and the compilation, review, and summation of the reports submitted in accordance with these requirements. The Weather Modification Reporting Program of NOAA is the only central source of weather modification in the United States.

Testimony at the hearing indicated that since enactment of that legislation, 111 reports have been received of attempted weather modification efforts. These reports, plus those which are expected to be submitted in the future, should provide a valuable source of information to Congress and the public.

Based on these reports, the Congress will be able to determine the reports should better enable Congress to compare the effect of varying State and local legislation regulating weather modification activities. This information should assist Congress in determining whether any additional Federal legislation is required, to promote research, to regulate weather modification activities, or both.

These reports should also prove to be of value to Federal administrative agencies and State governments concerned with weather modification efforts. The potential of fog suppression in aviation, the possible use of cloud seeding to deal with agricultural problems or to reduce extreme air pollution concentrations are but a few of the potential uses which may profitably be explored. On the other hand, potential abuses (and unanticipated consequences) of intended weather modification activities must also be examined.

The centralized collection and assembly of weather modification information may facilitate weather forecasting, avoid duplication of projects, and assist in the identification of potential hazards. The authority to notify State officials in the event of potential adverse effects from a proposed project may assist in protecting the public health, safety, and welfare.

These objectives cannot be realized, however, unless the authorizations of appropriations for this program are extended.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

The legislation reported extends the authorization of appropriations under Public Law 92-205 for three fiscal years. The amount authorized is \$200,000 per fiscal year, the same as was authorized in fiscal year 1974.

COST ESTIMATES

In accordance with clause 7(a)(1) of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee provides the following estimate of cost:

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Fiscal year: | |
| 1975 | \$105,000 |
| 1976 | 105,000 |
| 1977 | 105,000 |
| 1978 | 110,000 |
| 1979 | 110,000 |

Except for the administrative functions of the Secretary of Commerce, authorities under this Act expire on September 30, 1977.

AGENCY REPORTS

Following normal procedure, the Committee requested Agency reports on the bill H.R. 15008. No Agency views have been received in response to that request.

However, the following letter from the Secretary of Commerce on H.R. 14485, a bill which is identical to H.R. 15008, is relevant to consideration of this bill:

MARCH 13, 1974.

HON. CARL ALBERT
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed are six copies of a draft bill: To extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities, together with a statement of purposes and provisions in support thereof.

We have been advised by the Office of Management and Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of our draft bill to the Congress and further that enactment would be consistent with the Administration's objectives.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK B. DENT,
Secretary of Commerce.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3 of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 6 OF THE ACT OF DECEMBER 18, 1971

AN ACT To provide for the reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government

* * * * *

SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated \$150,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972, and \$200,000 each for the fiscal years [ending June 30, 1973, and June 30, 1974,] 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, and 1977, to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Ninety-third Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-first day of January,
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four*

An Act

To extend the appropriation authorization for reporting of weather modification activities.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 6 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the reporting of weather modification activities to the Federal Government", approved December 18, 1971 (15 U.S.C. 330e), is amended by striking out "ending June 30, 1973, and June 30, 1974," and inserting in lieu thereof "1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, and 1977,".

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*

September 26, 1974

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on September twenty-sixth:

S. J. Res. 244 ✓
S. 3320 ✓
H. R. 9907 ✓
H. R. 11559 ✓
H. R. 15404 ✓
H. R. 16243 ✓

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable Roy L. Ash
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C.