

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 3080
OFFERED BY MR. LOEBSACK OF IOWA**

Page 97, after line 7, insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . NATIONAL FLOOD PREVENTION AND MITIGATION**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 (a) NATIONAL FLOOD PREVENTION AND MITIGATION
4 PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSES.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in col-
6 laboration with the Administrator, shall establish a
7 program on flood prevention, mitigation, and edu-
8 cation, to be administered by—

9 (A) a program director within the Corps of
10 Engineers to be appointed by the Secretary, in
11 consultation with the Administrator;

12 (B) one public university or college selected
13 by the Secretary, in consultation with the Ad-
14 ministrator, which shall serve as the lead part-
15 ner institution; and

16 (C) other universities or colleges selected
17 by the Secretary, in consultation with the Ad-
18 ministrator and the lead partner institution,

1 based on their ability to fulfill specific purposes
2 of the program.

3 (2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the program
4 are as follows:

5 (A) To plan, conduct, and arrange for
6 competent public research, data, education, and
7 recommendations within the following cat-
8 egories as they relate to flooding issues nation-
9 wide, regionally, and locally:

10 (i) Physical sciences, including engi-
11 neering, hydrology, environmental, and at-
12 mospheric sciences, of flooding and flood-
13 related events.

14 (ii) Social science of flooding and
15 flood-related events focused on increasing
16 community resilience.

17 (iii) Economic analysis of flooding and
18 flood-related events in addition to analysis
19 of a variety of existing and new strategies
20 and techniques to reduce, manage, and
21 prevent flooding and flood-related events.

22 (iv) Policy analysis and recommenda-
23 tions on flooding-related policy on a Fed-
24 eral, State, and local governmental basis.

1 (v) Risk analysis and risk manage-
2 ment of flooding and flood-related events.

3 (vi) Improvement of existing, and
4 testing of new, risk assessment tools,
5 methods, and models for flooding and flood
6 risks used by Federal, State, and local gov-
7 ernments and other interested organiza-
8 tions.

9 (vii) Improvement of existing, and
10 testing of new, monitoring and predicting
11 strategies and techniques of flooding and
12 flood-related events.

13 (viii) Improvement of existing, and
14 testing of new, flood management and pre-
15 vention strategies and techniques.

16 (B) To carry out this section within a vari-
17 ety of regions in the United States that are
18 identified and categorized by the program direc-
19 tor and consortium members based on their
20 specific flooding and flood-related issues, hy-
21 drology, weather, and related issues so that di-
22 verse flood situations are represented and ex-
23 amined through the program.

24 (C) To identify opportunities for increased
25 efficiency in allocation of resources, coordina-

1 tion, cooperation, and consolidation of efforts as
2 they relate to local, Statewide, regional, and
3 Federal flood-related efforts with respect to the
4 purposes of the program.

5 (D) To develop or improve undergraduate
6 and graduate degree programs and other pro-
7 grams at the consortium-member universities
8 and colleges to advance the entry of new talent
9 into flooding-related fields.

10 (E) To collaborate with other colleges and
11 universities in the region that have dem-
12 onstrated capability for research, information
13 dissemination, and graduate training in order
14 to develop regional networks that are knowl-
15 edgeable on regional flooding issues.

16 (b) CONSORTIUM MEMBER SELECTION AND COL-
17 LABORATION.—

18 (1) SELECTION OF THE LEAD PARTNER INSTI-
19 TUTION.—The Secretary, in consultation with the
20 Administrator, within 180 days after the date of en-
21 actment of this section, shall select the lead partner
22 institution described in subsection (a)(1)(B). The se-
23 lection shall represent a public university or college
24 that—

1 (A) has demonstrated and proven expertise
2 in physical and environmental science, flooding,
3 hydraulic research, hydroscience, engineering,
4 and meteorological issues;

5 (B) is located in a State that frequently
6 experiences inland flooding;

7 (C) has previously partnered with, or re-
8 ceived funds from, Federal and international
9 agencies for flooding, hydrology, and watershed
10 issues, including the Corps of Engineers, the
11 United States Geological Survey, the National
12 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
13 Department of Agriculture, the Federal Emer-
14 gency Management Agency, the National
15 Science Foundation, the Department of Hous-
16 ing and Urban Development, and the United
17 Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural
18 Organization;

19 (D) has the capacity to develop and submit
20 a plan on how it will operate as the lead part-
21 ner institution, the type of research, activities,
22 and collaboration it would undertake, and how
23 it would incorporate its previous work on issues
24 related to the purposes of the program into its
25 new mission as the lead partner institution;

1 (E) can demonstrate an ability to take the
2 leading role of coordinating and fulfilling the
3 purposes of the program;

4 (F) can demonstrate an ability to provide
5 technical assistance and demonstration project
6 management and oversight both of grantees'
7 demonstration projects and of demonstration
8 projects initiated through consortium members;

9 (G) can demonstrate an ability to incor-
10 porate the program work into undergraduate
11 and graduate educational programs within the
12 public university or college; and

13 (H) can demonstrate an ability to con-
14 tribute the required non-Federal matching
15 funding to maintain a lead partner institution
16 center.

17 (2) SELECTION OF OTHER MEMBERS.—The
18 Secretary, in partnership with the Administrator and
19 the lead partner institution, shall select, within 90
20 days after the selection of the lead partner institu-
21 tion, additional universities and colleges to partici-
22 pate in the program through criteria as determined
23 by the Administrator and the lead partner institu-
24 tion, which shall, among other criteria determined by

1 the Administrator and lead partner institution,
2 prioritize institutions that—

3 (A) have a focus or expertise in at least
4 one of the categories described in subsection
5 (a)(2)(A);

6 (B) have the ability to plan, conduct, and
7 arrange for competent public research, data,
8 education, and recommendations as they relate
9 to flooding in diverse regions of the United
10 States identified and in the categories described
11 in subsection (a)(2)(A) to maintain the pro-
12 gram;

13 (C) can demonstrate an ability to provide
14 technical assistance and demonstration project
15 management and oversight;

16 (D) can demonstrate an ability to incor-
17 porate program work into undergraduate and
18 graduate educational programs within the uni-
19 versity or college; and

20 (E) can demonstrate an ability to con-
21 tribute the required non-Federal matching
22 funding to maintain a consortium member cen-
23 ter.

1 (3) MEMBER PARTNERSHIPS.—The consortium
2 members shall partner for the purposes of this sec-
3 tion in the following ways:

4 (A) CORPS OF ENGINEERS PARTNER-
5 SHIP.—The program director shall partner di-
6 rectly with the Administrator and the lead part-
7 ner institution for the purposes of the program.

8 (B) LEAD PARTNER INSTITUTION PART-
9 NERSHIP.—The lead partner institution shall
10 partner directly with the program director, the
11 Administrator, and the consortium members se-
12 lected under subsection (a)(1)(C) for the pur-
13 poses of the program.

14 (C) CONSORTIUM MEMBER PARTNER-
15 SHIP.—The consortium members selected under
16 subsection (a)(1)(C) shall partner with the lead
17 partner institution for the purposes of the pro-
18 gram.

19 (c) PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION WITH
20 FEDERAL, REGIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
21 AND ORGANIZATIONS.—

22 (1) PARTNERSHIPS.—The program director and
23 consortium members shall partner with the United
24 States Geological Survey and the National Oceanic

1 and Atmospheric Administration to carry out the
2 purposes of the program.

3 (2) COLLABORATION.—The program director
4 and consortium members shall—

5 (A) collaborate on Federal flood-related
6 issues with Federal agencies such as the Fed-
7 eral Emergency Management Agency, the Envi-
8 ronmental Protection Agency, the National Aer-
9 onautics and Space Administration, the Na-
10 tional Science Foundation, and the Department
11 of Agriculture;

12 (B) collaborate and share best practices on
13 regional, State, and locally specific flooding and
14 flood-related issues with—

15 (i) State, county, and local govern-
16 ments;

17 (ii) local councils of governments or
18 regional planning organizations;

19 (iii) State agriculture, natural re-
20 source, environment, economic develop-
21 ment, and water agencies;

22 (iv) floodplain managers;

23 (v) State Homeland Security per-
24 sonnel, county disaster recovery coordina-

1 tors, emergency management personnel,
2 and first responders;

3 (vi) resource conservation and devel-
4 opment councils;

5 (vii) watershed organizations and
6 boards;

7 (viii) agriculture and commodity orga-
8 nizations and farmers;

9 (ix) environmental organizations; and

10 (x) business and development organi-
11 zations; and

12 (C) explore opportunities to collaborate,
13 when appropriate, on Federal flood-related
14 issues with other Federal agencies such as the
15 Bureau of Reclamation, the Tennessee Valley
16 Authority, the Bureau of Land Management,
17 the National Park Service, the Bureau of In-
18 dian Affairs, the Public Health Administration,
19 the National Science Foundation, the Depart-
20 ment of Defense, the Department of the Inte-
21 rior, the Department of Housing and Urban
22 Development, and various national laboratories.

23 (d) INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINA-
24 TION.—

25 (1) CORPS OF ENGINEERS.—

1 (A) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary, in
2 coordination with the Administrator, shall pub-
3 lish annually a report containing the activities,
4 partnerships and collaborations, Federal policy
5 recommendations, previous and continuing
6 budgets, findings, and any other applicable in-
7 formation from the consortium members, and
8 shall provide each report to Congress and the
9 President and make it available to the public in
10 an easily accessible electronic format on the
11 websites of the Corps of Engineers and the Na-
12 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

13 (B) REVIEW OF REPORTS FROM CONSOR-
14 TIUM MEMBERS.—The Secretary and the Ad-
15 ministrator shall review the reports from the
16 consortium members to ensure that funds are
17 being spent properly according to the purposes
18 of this section and that the consortium mem-
19 bers are producing competent public research,
20 data, education, and recommendations in re-
21 gard to flooding and flood-related issues.

22 (C) REVIEW OF PROGRAM OPERATIONS.—
23 The Secretary and the Administrator shall peri-
24 odically review the operation of the program to
25 ensure that funds are being spent properly ac-

1 cording to the purposes of this section and that
2 the consortium members are producing com-
3 petent public research, data, education, and rec-
4 ommendations in regard to flooding and flood-
5 related issues.

6 (2) LEAD PARTNER INSTITUTION.—

7 (A) COMPILATION OF ANNUAL CONSOR-
8 TIUM MEMBER REPORTS.—The lead partner in-
9 stitution shall compile annually reports from
10 consortium members, along with its own report,
11 containing the activities, partnerships and col-
12 laborations, Federal policy recommendations,
13 previous and continuing budgets, findings, and
14 any other applicable information from the pro-
15 gram, and shall provide this information to the
16 Secretary and the Administrator of the Na-
17 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
18 annually by a date determined by the Secretary.

19 (B) ANNUAL LEAD PARTNER INSTITUTION
20 REPORT.—In addition, the lead partner institu-
21 tion shall publish annually a report specific to
22 its activities, partnerships and collaborations,
23 State and local policy recommendations, pre-
24 vious and continuing budgets, findings, and
25 other applicable information by a date deter-

1 mined by the Secretary, which shall also be
2 made available to the public in an easily acces-
3 sible electronic format on the lead partner insti-
4 tution's website.

5 (3) CONSORTIUM MEMBERS.—The consortium
6 members shall each publish annually a report con-
7 taining the activities, partnerships and collabora-
8 tions, State and local policy recommendations, pre-
9 vious and continuing budgets, findings, and other
10 applicable information by a date determined by the
11 lead partner institution, which shall also be made
12 available to the public in an easily accessible elec-
13 tronic format on the websites of the consortium
14 members.

15 (4) PROGRAM WEBSITE.—The program director
16 shall establish a website that shall be linked to and
17 from the websites of the Corps of Engineers and the
18 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
19 and shall contain at least the following information:

20 (A) Key findings and best practices.

21 (B) Collaborations and partnerships.

22 (C) Annual reports and other pertinent in-
23 formation on its purposes.

24 (D) The location and contact information
25 for the consortium members.

1 (E) Federal, State, local, and regionally
2 specific public research, data, education, and
3 policy recommendations, which shall be updated
4 in a timely manner with new information.

5 (F) The variety of regions in the United
6 States that are identified and categorized under
7 the program, based on their specific flooding
8 and flood-related issues, hydrology, weather,
9 and related issues.

10 (G) Approved demonstration projects and
11 their progress in addition to information on ap-
12 plying for demonstration project assistance.

13 (H) Tools for monitoring, predicting, and
14 modeling flooding, as they become available.

15 (e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND DEMONSTRATION
16 PROJECTS.—

17 (1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND DEMONSTRA-
18 TION PROJECTS.—The Secretary and the Adminis-
19 trator, through recommendations from the program
20 director and consortium members, may provide tech-
21 nical assistance and demonstration project grant as-
22 sistance to eligible entities on a competitive basis to
23 assist with implementing recommendations of the
24 program director and consortium members or testing

1 new or improved strategies or technologies for the
2 categories described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

3 (2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The following are eli-
4 gible entities for purposes of this subsection:

5 (A) State governments.

6 (B) County governments.

7 (C) Local governments.

8 (3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Consortium
9 members may provide technical assistance at their
10 discretion to eligible entities that have limited capac-
11 ity for developing an application for demonstration
12 project grants. Consortium members may also pro-
13 vide technical assistance at their discretion in imple-
14 menting demonstration projects approved by the
15 program director.

16 (4) COMPETITIVE CRITERIA.—The Secretary, in
17 partnership with the Administrator and the lead
18 partner institution, shall develop criteria required for
19 submitting a competitive demonstration project
20 grant application and for the approval of such an
21 application.

22 (5) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Grantees may use
23 funds only for flooding-related projects that imple-
24 ment recommendations of the program director and
25 consortium members or for testing of—

1 (A) improved existing or new risk analysis
2 and risk management of flooding and flood-re-
3 lated events;

4 (B) improved existing or new risk assess-
5 ment tools, methods, and models for flooding
6 and flood risks used by Federal, State, and
7 local governments and other interested organi-
8 zations;

9 (C) improved existing or new monitoring
10 and predicting strategies and techniques of
11 flooding and flood related events; or

12 (D) improved existing or new flood man-
13 agement and prevention strategies and tech-
14 niques.

15 (6) SUBCONTRACTING.—Eligible entities may
16 subcontract a portion of grant funds received for
17 necessary construction-related costs to pursue an eli-
18 gible activity.

19 (7) APPLICATIONS.—

20 (A) CONSORTIUM MEMBER REVIEW AND
21 APPROVAL.—Within 60 days of receiving a com-
22 pleted application, the consortium member in
23 whose region the project will take place and the
24 lead partner institution shall review and ap-
25 prove or disapprove the application.

1 (B) SECRETARY APPROVAL.—Within 60
2 days of receiving an application that has been
3 approved under subparagraph (A), the Sec-
4 retary shall determine whether to provide the
5 project final approval.

6 (8) GRANT SIZE.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Demonstration project
8 grant awards under this section shall not exceed
9 \$250,000 per project.

10 (B) WAIVER OF GRANT SIZE LIMITA-
11 TION.—The Secretary may waive such grant
12 size limitation if—

13 (i) all consortium members and the
14 program director approve of such a waiver;

15 (ii) the eligible entity has the exper-
16 tise, or will work with partners that have
17 the expertise, to manage the proposed
18 project; and

19 (iii) the eligible entity can show that
20 a project involves multiple watersheds or
21 jurisdictions, benefits multiple commu-
22 nities, has broad community support, and
23 incorporates multiple aspects of the pro-
24 gram's work in the project.

1 (9) MATCHING FUNDS.—Entities receiving a
2 demonstration project grant under this section shall
3 be required to provide a 30 percent non-Federal cost
4 share.

5 (10) MONITORING AND REPORTING.—For a
6 demonstration project that receives a grant under
7 this section, the applicable regional consortium mem-
8 ber shall monitor the effectiveness, efficiency, and
9 progress of the project and report on these factors
10 and their involvement periodically to the lead part-
11 ner institution. The applicable regional consortium
12 member shall make this information available
13 through its website and additionally provide this in-
14 formation in its annual reports.

15 (f) FEMA CONSULTATION.—The Administrator of
16 the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall consult
17 annually with the program director on its procedures for
18 producing accurate flood maps.

19 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
20 nitions apply:

21 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
22 trator” means the Administrator of the National
23 Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.

24 (2) CONSORTIUM MEMBERS.—The term “con-
25 sortium members” means the lead partner institu-

1 tion selected under subsection (a)(1)(B) and the uni-
2 versities and colleges selected under subsection
3 (a)(1)(C).

4 (3) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means
5 the program on flood prevention, mitigation, and
6 education established under this section.

