

S 2941

Strengthening the Cooperative Observer Program Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 23, 2018

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 644.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 644. (Nov 14, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2941>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]

Party: Republican • **State:** SD • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Jun 27, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Nov 14, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 2951	Identical bill	May 24, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Strengthening the Cooperative Observer Program Act of 2018

This bill directs the National Weather Service (NWS) to make improvements to the Cooperative Observer Program, including by:

- furnishing support to state-coordinated programs relating to the program and states and regions where observations provided through the program are scarce;
- working with state weather service headquarters to increase participation in the program and to add stations in such states and regions;
- prioritizing the recruitment of new program volunteers; and
- ensuring that integrated reporting is available for qualitative observations that cannot be automated, such as snow observations and hazardous weather events so that they can be reported and uploaded quickly and easily.

The NWS must coordinate with state and regional offices regarding the status of program stations at least every 180 days.

The NWS shall also coordinate with other federal agencies, including the Forest Service, the Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Geological Survey, in leveraging opportunities to expand the program and to more effectively use its existing infrastructure, weather stations, and staff.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 14, 2018:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Thune with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 115-357.
- **Nov 14, 2018:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 644.
- **Jun 27, 2018:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **May 23, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 23, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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