

S 346

National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Feb 8, 2017

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (May 21, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/346>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 8, 2017
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 8, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 15, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 4475	Related bill	Jan 9, 2018: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 374.

National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act

(Sec. 3) This bill directs the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to establish the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System to monitor, issue warnings of, and protect U.S. citizens from undue and avoidable harm from, volcanic activity.

The purposes of the system are to: (1) organize, modernize, standardize, and stabilize the monitoring systems of U.S. volcano observatories; and (2) unify such systems into a single interoperative system. The objective of the system is to monitor all U.S. volcanoes at a level commensurate with the threat posed by the volcanoes by: (1) upgrading existing networks on monitored volcanoes, (2) installing new networks on unmonitored volcanoes, and (3) employing geodetic and other components when applicable.

The system shall include: (1) a national volcano watch office that is operational 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, (2) a national volcano data center, (3) an external grants program to support research in volcano monitoring science and technology, and (4) modernization activities including the comprehensive application of emerging technologies.

The USGS must: (1) submit to Congress a five-year management plan for establishing and operating the system, (2) establish an advisory committee to assist in implementing the system, and (3) report to Congress annually describing the activities carried out under this bill.

The USGS may enter into cooperative agreements designating institutions of higher education and state agencies as volcano observatory partners for the system.

(Sec. 4) The bill authorizes appropriations for FY2019-FY2023.

Actions Timeline

- **May 21, 2018:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **May 21, 2018:** Received in the House.
- **May 21, 2018:** Held at the desk.
- **May 17, 2018:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S3776-3778)
- **May 17, 2018:** The committee amendments agreed to by Unanimous Consent. (text of measure as reported to Senate: CR S3776-3777)
- **May 17, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Voice Vote.(text as passed Senate: CR S3777-3778)
- **May 17, 2018:** Passed Senate with amendments by Voice Vote. (text as passed Senate: CR S3777-3778)
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Murkowski with amendments. With written report No. 115-113.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 150.
- **Mar 30, 2017:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Feb 8, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 8, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S968-969)