

HR 4475

National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Nov 28, 2017

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 374.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 374. (Jan 9, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4475>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Reported By	Jan 9, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 346	Related bill	May 21, 2018: Held at the desk.

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, and (2) establish an advisory committee to assist in implementing the system.

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

The USGS must conduct a study to assess the feasibility of establishing volcano observatories in Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa to monitor volcanic activity across the western and southern Pacific Ocean along the Ring of Fire. If determined to be feasible, the USGS may enter into cooperative agreements with institutions of higher education or territorial agencies to establish such observatories as part of the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 9, 2018:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 115-501.
- **Jan 9, 2018:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 374.
- **Dec 13, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Dec 13, 2017:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 12, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Nov 28, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 28, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.