

S 4462

FLOODS Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Aug 6, 2020

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Nov 17, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4462>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Aug 6, 2020
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Oct 21, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Sep 24, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8882	Related bill	Dec 7, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

Flood Level Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act or the FLOODS Act

This bill addresses forecasting and the communication of flood, tornado, and hurricane events by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Among other provisions, the bill

- directs NOAA to establish a National Integrated Flood Information System to better inform and provide for more timely decision-making to reduce flood-related effects and costs;
- establishes partnerships with institutions of higher education and federal agencies to improve total water predictions;
- designates a service coordination hydrologist at each National Weather Service River Forecast Center to increase impact-based decision support services at the state and local level;
- requires NOAA to evaluate and improve flood watches and warnings and communication of information to support preparation and responses to floods;
- ensures that the tornado warning improvement and extension program periodically examines the value of incorporating innovative observations, such as acoustic or infrasonic measurements, observations from phased array radars, and observations from mesonets;
- requires NOAA to estimate and communicate the frequency of precipitation;
- establishes an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Water Management to ensure that federal agencies that engage in water-related matters, including water storage and supplies, water quality and restoration activities, water infrastructure, transportation on rivers and inland waterways, and water forecasting, work together where such agencies have joint or overlapping responsibilities; and
- directs NOAA to conduct an analysis of gaps in the availability of snow-related data to assess and predict floods and flood impacts.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 17, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Nov 17, 2020:** Received in the House.
- **Nov 17, 2020:** Held at the desk.
- **Nov 16, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S6694-6698; text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S6694-6698)
- **Nov 16, 2020:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6694-6698; text of amendment in the nature of a substitute: CR S6694-6698)
- **Sep 24, 2020:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Wicker with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 116-269.
- **Sep 24, 2020:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 556.
- **Sep 16, 2020:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Aug 6, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 6, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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