

S 3817

TORNADO Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 10, 2022

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 629.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 629. (Dec 12, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/3817>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Mar 10, 2022
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Mar 10, 2022
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		Mar 10, 2022
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Mar 10, 2022
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 21, 2022
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 28, 2022
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 31, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 12, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Tornado Observations Research and Notification Assessment for Development of Operations Act or the TORNADO Act

This bill establishes programs and activities to improve the forecasting of hazardous weather and water events, including tornadoes.

The bill directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to maintain and improve the system by which the risks of hazardous weather and water events are communicated to the general public, with the goal of informing action and encouraging response to prevent loss of life and property.

NOAA shall also

- maintain a hazard risk communication office;
- establish or maintain a research program to modernize the creation and communication of risk-based, statistically reliable, probabilistic hazard information to inform effective responses to hazardous weather and water events;
- establish a pilot program for tornado hazard communication to test the effectiveness of the implementation of the research conducted pursuant to this bill;
- submit to Congress a strategic plan for developing and prioritizing the implementation of high-resolution probabilistic forecast guidance for hazardous weather and water events using a next-generation weather forecast and warning framework;
- perform one or more post-storm surveys and assessments following each hazardous weather or water event that is of sufficient societal importance;
- update, if necessary, the system for rating tornado severity; and
- maintain the Vortex USA tornado research program.

The Government Accountability Office shall submit a report that examines the information technology infrastructure of the National Weather Service.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 12, 2022:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Cantwell with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Dec 12, 2022:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 629.
- **Mar 22, 2022:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Mar 10, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 10, 2022:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.