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117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2780

[Report No. 117–686, Part I]

To provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 2021

Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. SABLÁN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

DECEMBER 30, 2022

Additional sponsors: Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. McEACHIN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. NEGUSE

DECEMBER 30, 2022

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

DECEMBER 30, 2022

Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure,
and Science, Space, and Technology discharged; committed to the Com-
mittee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be
printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 22, 2021]

A BILL

To provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adapta-
tion, and resilience in the United States Territories and
Freely Associated States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Insular Area Climate*
 5 *Change Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7 *The table of contents for this Act is as follows:*

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

Sec. 4. Findings.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. Insular Area Climate Change Interagency Task Force.

Sec. 102. Non-Federal cost-share waiver.

Sec. 103. Coral reefs prize competitions.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Sec. 201. Office of Insular Affairs Technical Assistance Program.

Sec. 202. Runit Dome report and monitoring activities.

**TITLE III—NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION**

Sec. 301. Climate Change Insular Research Grant Program.

Sec. 302. Coastal management technical assistance and report.

Sec. 303. National Weather Service technical assistance and grants.

Sec. 304. Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act.

TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Sec. 401. Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs.

Sec. 402. Comprehensive energy plans.

Sec. 403. Energy Efficient Product Rebate Program.

Sec. 404. Renewable Energy Grant Program.

Sec. 405. Offshore wind for the territories.

Sec. 406. State Energy Program non-Federal cost-share waiver.

TITLE V—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Sec. 501. Definitions.

Sec. 502. Insular Area National Program Office.

Sec. 503. Insular Area Sustainable Infrastructure Grant Program.

Sec. 504. Insular Area Renewable Energy Grant Program.

Sec. 505. Insular Area Technical Assistance Program.

TITLE VI—EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Sec. 601. Community disaster loans repayment cancellation.

Sec. 602. Disaster relief non-Federal cost-share waiver.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 *In this Act, the following definitions apply:*

3 (1) *ADAPTATION.*—*The term “Adaptation”*
 4 *means the capacity of natural and human systems to*
 5 *adjust to climate change or its impacts in a matter*
 6 *that will reduce damage or take advantage of any*
 7 *beneficial aspects.*

8 (2) *FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.*—*The term*
 9 *“Freely Associated States” means the Republic of the*
 10 *Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia,*
 11 *and the Republic of Palau.*

12 (3) *INSULAR AREAS.*—*The term “Insular Areas”*
 13 *means the territories and Freely Associated States.*

14 (4) *MITIGATION.*—*The term “Mitigation” means*
 15 *measures and initiatives that would limit or reduce*
 16 *greenhouse gas emissions.*

17 (5) *RESILIENCE.*—*The term “Resilience” means*
 18 *the capacity of natural and human systems to resist,*
 19 *assimilate, and recover from the effects of climate*
 20 *change in an efficient and timely manner, maintain-*
 21 *ing or restoring basic structures and essential func-*
 22 *tions.*

1 (6) *RENEWABLE ENERGY.*—*The term “renewable*
2 *energy” means energy that has been derived from*
3 *Earth’s natural resources that are not finite or ex-*
4 *haustible, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geo-*
5 *thermal, and ocean (thermal and mechanics).*

6 (7) *RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEM.*—*The term*
7 *“renewable energy system” includes off-grid or stand-*
8 *alone systems, microgrids, nano grids, and virtual*
9 *power plants systems based on renewable energy*
10 *sources, including storage and other related ancillary*
11 *equipment. These may also be referred to as “eligible*
12 *projects”. Waste to energy are not considered as eligi-*
13 *ble projects.*

14 (8) *TERRITORIES.*—*The term “territories” means*
15 *American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern*
16 *Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin*
17 *Islands of the United States.*

18 (9) *TERRITORY.*—*The term “territory” means*
19 *American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern*
20 *Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin*
21 *Islands of the United States.*

22 **SEC. 4. FINDINGS.**

23 *Congress finds as follows:*

1 (1) *The Insular Areas are topographically and*
2 *environmentally diverse and treasured by millions of*
3 *individuals who call them home.*

4 (2) *The territories in the Caribbean (Puerto Rico*
5 *and the Virgin Islands of the United States) and the*
6 *territories in the Pacific (American Samoa, the Com-*
7 *monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and*
8 *Guam) face many of the same climate change-related*
9 *challenges. Freely Associated States face similar cli-*
10 *mate change-related vulnerabilities.*

11 (3) *Insular Areas are experiencing sea level rise,*
12 *coastal erosion, and increasing storm impacts that*
13 *threaten lives, critical infrastructure, ecosystems, and*
14 *livelihood security.*

15 (4) *Temperature increases are likely to further*
16 *create and intensify the length of droughts, reduce*
17 *water supply, impact public health, and increase de-*
18 *mand of freshwater in Insular Areas. In addition,*
19 *temperature increases will drive coral reefs to extinc-*
20 *tion, eliminating a natural barrier against storm*
21 *surge, increasing destruction of infrastructure, and*
22 *threatening lives of the inhabitants of the islands.*

23 (5) *In 2017, two major storms, Hurricane Irma*
24 *and Hurricane Maria, impacted Puerto Rico and the*
25 *Virgin Islands of the United States. Hurricane Maria*

caused thousands of deaths in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States and significant damage to their infrastructure, including Puerto Rico’s energy system. Hurricane Maria destroyed millions of trees in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States, which has significantly increased erosion and sediment transport. As a result, reservoirs have lost significant storage capacity and coral reefs are severely impacted.

(6) In 2018, Typhoon Yutu impacted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, causing catastrophic destruction in those territories.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. INSULAR AREA CLIMATE CHANGE INTERAGENCY

TASK FORCE.

(a) *ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE.*—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the following shall jointly establish the “Insular Area Climate Change Interagency Task Force” (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Task Force”):

(1) *The Secretary of the Interior.*

(2) *The Secretary of Energy.*

(3) *The Secretary of State.*

1 (4) *The Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-*
2 *opment.*

3 (5) *The Secretary of Agriculture.*

4 (6) *The Secretary of Commerce.*

5 (7) *The Administrator of the Federal Emergency*
6 *Management Agency.*

7 (8) *The Administrator of the Environmental*
8 *Protection Agency.*

9 (b) *CHAIRPERSON.—The Task Force shall be chaired*
10 *by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Manage-*
11 *ment Agency.*

12 (c) *DUTIES.—The Task Force shall—*

13 (1) *evaluate all Federal programs regarding*
14 *ways to provide greater access to Federal programs*
15 *and equitable baseline funding in relation to States,*
16 *to territories for climate change planning, mitigation,*
17 *adaptation, and resilience;*

18 (2) *identify statutory barriers to providing terri-*
19 *ories greater access to Federal programs and equi-*
20 *table baseline funding; and*

21 (3) *provide recommendations related to climate*
22 *change in Insular Areas, in consultation with local*
23 *governments and non-governmental organizations in*
24 *Insular Areas with expertise on climate change.*

1 (d) *COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.*—Not later than 1 year
2 after the establishment of the Task Force, the Task Force,
3 in consultation with Insular Areas governments, shall issue
4 a comprehensive report that—

5 (1) identifies Federal programs that have an im-
6 pact on climate change planning, mitigation, adapta-
7 tion, and resilience, but exclude territories in regard
8 to eligibility, funding, and assistance, or do not pro-
9 vide equitable baseline funding in relation to States;
10 and

11 (2) provides advice and recommendations related
12 to climate change in Insular Areas, such as new sug-
13 gested Federal programs or initiatives.

14 (e) *PUBLICATION; PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.*—The Ad-
15 ministrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency
16 shall ensure that the report required under subsection (d)
17 is—

18 (1) submitted to the Committees on Energy and
19 Commerce and Natural Resources of the House of
20 Representatives, and Energy and Natural Resources
21 of the Senate;

22 (2) published in the Federal Register for public
23 comment for a period of at least 60 days; and

1 (3) *made available on a public website along*
2 *with any comments received during the public com-*
3 *ment period required under paragraph (2).*

4 **SEC. 102. NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE WAIVER.**

5 *Section 501 of the Omnibus Territories Act of 1977*
6 *(48 U.S.C. 1469a), is amended by adding at the end the*
7 *following:*

8 “(e) *Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in*
9 *the case of the Insular Areas, any department or agency*
10 *shall waive any requirement for non-Federal matching*
11 *funds under \$750,000 (including in-kind contributions) re-*
12 *quired by law to be provided by those jurisdictions.”.*

13 **SEC. 103. CORAL REEFS PRIZE COMPETITIONS.**

14 (a) *PRIZE COMPETITIONS.—The Director of the Office*
15 *of Science and Technology Policy shall work with the head*
16 *of each Federal agency represented on the U.S. Coral Reef*
17 *Task Force established under Executive Order 13089 (63*
18 *Fed. Reg. 32701) to establish prize competitions, in accord-*
19 *ance with section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology*
20 *Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719), that promote*
21 *coral reef research and conservation in the Insular Areas.*

22 (b) *WAIVER OF MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—Section*
23 *204(b) of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16*
24 *U.S.C. 6403(b)) is amended—*

(1) *by striking the enumerator and heading for paragraph (2) and inserting the following:*

“(2) *WAIVERS.—*

“(A) *NEED AND BENEFIT.—*”; and

(2) *by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the following:*

“(B) *SUSTAINING CORAL REEF MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING.—The Secretary shall waive all of the matching requirement under paragraph (1) for grants to implement State and territorial coral reef conservation cooperative agreements to sustain coral reef management and monitoring in Florida, Hawaii, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.*”.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SEC. 201. OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Office of Insular Affairs Technical Assistance Program, shall provide technical assistance for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience to Insular Areas under the jurisdiction of such Program.*

1 (b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There is*
 2 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Inte-*
 3 *rior to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of the fis-*
 4 *cal years 2022 through 2026.*

5 **SEC. 202. RUNIT DOME REPORT AND MONITORING ACTIVI-**
 6 **TIES.**

7 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 1 year after the date*
 8 *of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall*
 9 *submit to the Committees on Natural Resources and Energy*
 10 *and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and to the*
 11 *Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate,*
 12 *a report, prepared by independent experts not employed by*
 13 *the U.S. government, on the impacts of climate change on*
 14 *the “Runit Dome” nuclear waste disposal site in Enewetak*
 15 *Atoll, Marshall Islands, and on other environmental haz-*
 16 *ards in the vicinity thereof. The report shall include the*
 17 *following:*

18 (1) *A detailed scientific analysis of any threats*
 19 *to the environment, and to the health and safety of*
 20 *Enewetak Atoll residents, posed by each of the fol-*
 21 *lowing:*

22 (A) *The “Runit Dome” nuclear waste dis-*
 23 *posal site.*

24 (B) *Crypts used to contain nuclear waste*
 25 *and other toxins on Enewetak Atoll.*

1 (C) Radionuclides and other toxins present
2 in the lagoon of Enewetak Atoll, including areas
3 in the lagoon where nuclear waste was dumped.

4 (D) Radionuclides and other toxins, includ-
5 ing beryllium, which may be present on the is-
6 lands of Enewetak Atoll as a result of nuclear
7 tests and other activities of the U.S. government,
8 including tests of chemical and biological war-
9 fare agents, rocket tests, contaminated aircraft
10 landing on Enewetak Island, and nuclear clean-
11 up activities.

12 (E) Radionuclides and other toxins that
13 may be present in the drinking water on
14 Enewetak Island or in the water source for the
15 desalination plant.

16 (F) Radionuclides and other toxins that
17 may be present in the groundwater under and in
18 the vicinity of the nuclear waste disposal facility
19 on Runit Island.

20 (2) A detailed scientific analysis of the extent to
21 which rising sea levels, severe weather events and
22 other effects of climate change might exacerbate any
23 of the threats identified above.

1 (3) *A detailed plan, including costs, to relocate*
2 *all of the nuclear waste and other toxic waste con-*
3 *tained in—*

4 (A) *the “Runit Dome” nuclear waste dis-*
5 *posal site;*

6 (B) *all of the crypts on Enewetak Atoll con-*
7 *taining such waste; and*

8 (C) *the three dumping areas in Enewetak’s*
9 *lagoon to a safe, secure facility to be constructed*
10 *in an uninhabited, unincorporated territory of*
11 *the United States.*

12 (b) *MARSHALLESE PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary of*
13 *the Interior shall allow scientists or other experts selected*
14 *by the Republic of the Marshall Islands to participate in*
15 *all aspects of the preparation of the report required by sub-*
16 *section (a), including, without limitation, developing the*
17 *work plan, identifying questions, conducting research, and*
18 *collecting and interpreting data.*

19 (c) *PUBLICATION.—The report required in subsection*
20 *(a) shall be published in the Federal Register for public*
21 *comment for a period of not fewer than 60 days.*

22 (d) *PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of the Inte-*
23 *rior shall publish the study required under subsection (a)*
24 *and results submitted under subsection (b) on a public*
25 *website.*

1 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION FOR RE-*
 2 *PORT.—It is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the*
 3 *Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, for*
 4 *fiscal year 2022 such sums as may be necessary to produce*
 5 *the report required in subsection (a).*

6 (f) *INDEFINITE AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION*
 7 *FOR RUNIT DOME MONITORING ACTIVITIES.—It is hereby*
 8 *authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Energy*
 9 *such sums as may be necessary to comply with the require-*
 10 *ments of 48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(1)(B).*

11 ***TITLE III—NATIONAL OCEANIC***
 12 ***AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINIS-***
 13 ***TRATION***

14 ***SEC. 301. CLIMATE CHANGE INSULAR RESEARCH GRANT***
 15 ***PROGRAM.***

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National*
 17 *Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall establish a*
 18 *Climate Change Insular Research Grant Program to pro-*
 19 *vide grants to institutions of higher education, as such term*
 20 *is defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act*
 21 *of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), and nonprofit organizations*
 22 *in Insular Areas for monitoring, collecting, synthesizing,*
 23 *analyzing, and publishing local climate change data, in-*
 24 *cluding ocean temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidifica-*
 25 *tion, and altered ocean currents data.*

1 (b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*To carry*
 2 *out this section there is authorized to be appropriated to*
 3 *the Administrator \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years*
 4 *2022 through 2026.*

5 **SEC. 302. COASTAL MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**
 6 **AND REPORT.**

7 (a) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Administrator of the Na-*
 9 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, act-*
 10 *ing through the Director of the Office for Coastal*
 11 *Management, shall provide technical assistance to In-*
 12 *sular Areas to enhance such entities' coastal manage-*
 13 *ment and climate change programs.*

14 (2) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*To*
 15 *carry out this subsection there is authorized to be ap-*
 16 *propriated to the Administrator of the National Oce-*
 17 *anic and Atmospheric Administration \$5,000,000 for*
 18 *each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.*

19 (b) *ANNUAL REPORT.*—*The Administrator of the Na-*
 20 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, acting*
 21 *through the Director of the Office for Coastal Management,*
 22 *shall submit an annual report to the Committee on Natural*
 23 *Resources of the House of Representatives and the Com-*
 24 *mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the*
 25 *Senate on the status of—*

1 (1) *wetland, mangrove, and estuary conditions*
2 *in Insular Areas; and*

3 (2) *climate change impacts, including ecological,*
4 *economic, and cultural impacts, in Insular Areas.*

5 **SEC. 303. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TECHNICAL AS-**
6 **SISTANCE AND GRANTS.**

7 (a) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Administrator of the Na-*
9 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, act-*
10 *ing through the Director of the National Weather*
11 *Service, shall provide technical assistance and out-*
12 *reach to Insular Areas through the San Juan, Tiyan,*
13 *and Pago Pago Weather Forecast Offices of the Na-*
14 *tional Weather Service. For the purposes of this sec-*
15 *tion, the Administrator may also employ other agency*
16 *entities as the Administrator deems necessary, in*
17 *order to improve weather data collection and provide*
18 *science, data, information, and impact-based decision*
19 *support services to reduce hurricane, typhoon,*
20 *droughts, tsunamis, tides, and sea level rise impacts*
21 *in the Insular Areas.*

22 (2) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*To*
23 *carry out this subsection there is authorized to be ap-*
24 *propriated to the Administrator \$5,000,000 for each*
25 *of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.*

1 (b) *GRANTS.*—

2 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Administrator of the Na-*
 3 *tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may*
 4 *provide grants to academic, nonprofit, and local enti-*
 5 *ties to conduct climate change research to improve*
 6 *weather data collection and provide science, data, in-*
 7 *formation, and impact-based decision support services*
 8 *to reduce hurricane, typhoon, droughts, tsunamis,*
 9 *tides, and sea level rise impacts in the Insular Areas.*

10 (2) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*To*
 11 *carry out this subsection there is authorized to be ap-*
 12 *propriated to the Administrator \$5,000,000 for each*
 13 *of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.*

14 **SEC. 304. OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING INTEGRATION**
 15 **ACT.**

16 *Section 12204 of the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Inte-*
 17 *gration Act (33 U.S.C. 3503) is amended—*

18 (1) *in paragraph (12) by striking “and”;*

19 (2) *in paragraph (13) by striking the period at*
 20 *the end and inserting “; and”; and*

21 (3) *by adding at the end the following:*

22 “(14) *The study of Insular Areas and the effects*
 23 *of climate change.*”.

***TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY***

***SEC. 401. OFFICE OF INSULAR AREA ENERGY POLICY AND
PROGRAMS.***

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

***“SEC. 218. OFFICE OF INSULAR AREA ENERGY POLICY AND
PROGRAMS.***

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Department an Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs (referred to in this section as the ‘Office’). The Office shall be headed by a Director, who shall be appointed by the Secretary and compensated at a rate equal to that of level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

“(b) DUTIES.—The Office shall—

“(1) direct, coordinate, implement, and monitor energy planning, education, management, conservation, and delivery programs of the Department to—

“(A) assist Insular Areas in developing comprehensive energy plans;

“(B) expand renewable energy and energy efficiency in Insular Areas;

1 “(C) *reduce or stabilize energy costs in In-*
2 *sular Areas;*

3 “(D) *enhance and strengthen energy infra-*
4 *structure in Insular Areas to withstand natural*
5 *disasters; and*

6 “(E) *work with Insular Areas to develop*
7 *improved regulatory and oversight conditions;*
8 *and*

9 “(2) *centralize and align all ongoing Depart-*
10 *ment of Energy efforts in the Insular Areas.*

11 “(c) *ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director shall submit an*
12 *annual report to the Committee on Natural Resources and*
13 *the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of*
14 *Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural*
15 *Resources of the Senate on the status of all projects under-*
16 *taken and grants approved by the Office.*

17 “(d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is*
18 *authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out*
19 *this section \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022*
20 *through 2026.*

21 “(e) *NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE WAIVER.—Any*
22 *funding made available to Insular Areas by the Office of*
23 *Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs under this or*
24 *any other Federal law shall not be subject to a non-Federal*
25 *share funding requirement.”.*

1 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

2 (1) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—*The table of contents*
 3 *of the Department of Energy Organization Act is*
 4 *amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-*
 5 *tion 217 the following:*

 “*Sec. 218. Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs.*”.

6 (2) *POSITIONS AT LEVEL IV.*—*Section 5315 of*
 7 *title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting*
 8 *after the item relating to the Director, Office of*
 9 *Science, Department of Energy the following new*
 10 *item:*

11 “*Director, Office of Insular Area Energy Policy*
 12 *and Programs, Department of Energy.*”.

13 **SEC. 402. COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLANS.**

14 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 1 year after the date*
 15 *of the enactment of this Act, the Office of Insular Area En-*
 16 *ergy Policy and Programs in the Department of Energy,*
 17 *in consultation with the Office of Insular Affairs of the De-*
 18 *partment of the Interior, shall submit to the Committees*
 19 *on Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources of the*
 20 *House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and*
 21 *Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—*

22 (1) *the results of a study of the execution of the*
 23 *comprehensive energy plans required by section 9 of*
 24 *Public Law 113–235 (48 U.S.C. 1492a), including—*

1 (A) initial, planned, and current sources of
2 renewable energy;

3 (B) initial, planned, and current energy
4 imports; and

5 (C) projected and actual energy needs dur-
6 ing calendar year 2020 for each Insular Area;

7 (2) the lessons learned from the preparation of
8 these plans;

9 (3) the date on which each plan was most re-
10 cently updated; and

11 (4) recommendations with respect to each Insu-
12 lar Area, on the need to update such plans.

13 (b) *PUBLICATION; PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.*—The Sec-
14 retary of Energy shall ensure that—

15 (1) the report required by subsection (a) is pub-
16 lished in the Federal Register for public comment for
17 a period of not fewer than 60 days; and

18 (2) the report required by subsection (a) and any
19 comments received under subsection (b) are made
20 available on a public website.

21 **SEC. 403. ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCT REBATE PROGRAM.**

22 (a) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

23 (1) *ELIGIBLE TERRITORY.*—The term “eligible
24 territory” means a territory that meets the require-
25 ments of subsection (c).

1 (2) *ENERGY STAR PROGRAM.*—*The term “Energy*
 2 *Star program” means the program established by sec-*
 3 *tion 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act*
 4 *(42 U.S.C. 6294a).*

5 (3) *RESIDENTIAL ENERGY STAR PRODUCT.*—*The*
 6 *term “residential Energy Star product” means a*
 7 *product for a residence that is rated for energy effi-*
 8 *ciency under the Energy Star program.*

9 (4) *ENERGY OFFICE.*—*The term “energy office”*
 10 *means the government agency within the territory re-*
 11 *sponsible for developing an energy conservation plan*
 12 *under section 362 of the Energy Policy and Conserva-*
 13 *tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6322).*

14 (5) *REBATE PROGRAM.*—*The term “rebate pro-*
 15 *gram” means an energy efficient product rebate pro-*
 16 *gram described in subsection (c)(1).*

17 (b) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*The Secretary of Energy shall*
 18 *establish a program, to be known as the “Energy Efficient*
 19 *Product Rebate Program”, under which the Director of the*
 20 *Office of Insular Area Energy Policy Programs shall pro-*
 21 *vide allocations to eligible territories in accordance with*
 22 *this section.*

23 (c) *ELIGIBLE TERRITORIES.*—*A territory shall be eli-*
 24 *gible to receive an allocation under subsection (d) if the ter-*
 25 *ritory—*

1 (1) *establishes (or has established) an energy effi-*
 2 *cient product rebate program to provide rebates to*
 3 *residential consumers for the purchase of residential*
 4 *Energy Star products to replace used products of the*
 5 *same type;*

6 (2) *establishes clear requirements to prevent ille-*
 7 *gal dumping of old products and the overflow of land-*
 8 *fills, and ensure environmental justice;*

9 (3) *submits an application for the allocation at*
 10 *such time, in such form, and containing such infor-*
 11 *mation as the Director of the Office of Insular Area*
 12 *Energy Policy and Programs may require; and*

13 (4) *provides assurances satisfactory to the Direc-*
 14 *tor of the Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and*
 15 *Programs that the territory will use the allocation to*
 16 *supplement, but not supplant, funds made available*
 17 *to carry out the rebate program.*

18 (d) *AMOUNT OF ALLOCATIONS.—*

19 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for*
 20 *each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, the Director*
 21 *of the Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Pro-*
 22 *grams shall allocate to the energy office of each eligi-*
 23 *ble territory to carry out subsection (e) an amount*
 24 *equal to the product obtained by multiplying the*
 25 *amount made available under subsection (g) for the*

1 *fiscal year by the ratio that the population of the ter-*
2 *ritory in the most recent calendar year for which*
3 *data are available bears to the total population of all*
4 *eligible territories in that calendar year.*

5 (2) *MINIMUM ALLOCATIONS.—For each fiscal*
6 *year, the amounts allocated under this subsection*
7 *shall be adjusted proportionately so that no eligible*
8 *territory is allocated a sum that is less than an*
9 *amount determined by the Director.*

10 (e) *USE OF ALLOCATED FUNDS.—An allocation to an*
11 *energy office under subsection (d) may be used to pay not*
12 *more than 75 percent of the cost of establishing and car-*
13 *rying out a rebate program.*

14 (f) *ISSUANCE OF REBATES.—The amount of a rebate*
15 *provided under a rebate program shall be determined by*
16 *the applicable energy office, taking into consideration—*

17 (1) *the amount of the allocation to the energy of-*
18 *fice under subsection (d);*

19 (2) *the amount of any tax incentive available for*
20 *the purchase of the residential Energy Star product;*
21 *and*

22 (3) *the difference between the cost of the residen-*
23 *tial Energy Star product and the cost of a product*
24 *that is not a residential Energy Star product, but is*
25 *of the same type as, and is the nearest capacity, per-*

1 *formance, and other relevant characteristics (as deter-*
 2 *mined by the energy office) to, the residential Energy*
 3 *Star product.*

4 *(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are*
 5 *authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section*
 6 *\$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.*

7 **SEC. 404. RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM.**

8 *(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

9 *(1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered enti-*
 10 *ty” means a not-for-profit organization determined*
 11 *eligible by the Secretary for purposes of this section.*

12 *(2) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL LABORA-*
 13 *TORIES.—The term “Department of Energy national*
 14 *laboratories” has the same meaning as the term “Na-*
 15 *tional Laboratory” under section 2 of the Energy Pol-*
 16 *icy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).*

17 *(3) MICROGRID.—The term “microgrid” means*
 18 *an electric system—*

19 *(A) that serves the local community with a*
 20 *power generation and distribution system; and*

21 *(B) that has the ability—*

22 *(i) to disconnect from a traditional*
 23 *electric grid; and*

24 *(ii) to operate autonomously when dis-*
 25 *connected.*

1 (4) *PROGRAM.*—*The term “Program” means the*
 2 *Renewable Energy Grant Program established under*
 3 *subsection (b).*

4 (5) *SMART GRID.*—*The term “smart grid” means*
 5 *an intelligent electric grid that uses digital commu-*
 6 *nications technology, information systems, and auto-*
 7 *mation to, while maintaining high system reli-*
 8 *ability—*

9 (A) *detect and react to local changes in*
 10 *usage;*

11 (B) *improve system operating efficiency;*
 12 *and*

13 (C) *reduce spending costs.*

14 (b) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*Not later than 180 days after*
 15 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the*
 16 *Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs shall*
 17 *establish a Renewable Energy Grant Program under which*
 18 *the Director may award grants to covered entities to facili-*
 19 *tate projects in Insular Areas described in subsection (d).*

20 (c) *APPLICATIONS.*—*To be eligible for a grant under*
 21 *the Program, a covered entity shall submit to the Director*
 22 *an application at such time, in such form, and containing*
 23 *such information as the Secretary may require.*

24 (d) *USE OF FUNDS.*—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—A covered entity receiving a
 2 grant under the Program may use grant funds for a
 3 project, in territories of the United States—

4 (A) to develop or construct a renewable en-
 5 ergy system;

6 (B) to carry out an activity to increase en-
 7 ergy efficiency;

8 (C) to develop or construct an energy stor-
 9 age system or device for—

10 (i) a system developed or constructed
 11 under subparagraph (A); or

12 (ii) an activity carried out under sub-
 13 paragraph (B);

14 (D) to develop or construct—

15 (i) a smart grid; or

16 (ii) a microgrid; or

17 (E) to train residents of territories of the
 18 United States to develop, construct, maintain, or
 19 operate a renewable energy system.

20 (2) *LIMITATION.*—A covered entity receiving a
 21 grant under the Program may not use grant funds to
 22 develop or construct a facility that generates elec-
 23 tricity using energy derived from—

24 (A) fossil fuels; or

25 (B) nuclear power.

1 (e) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—*The Director shall en-*
 2 *sure that Department of Energy national laboratories offer*
 3 *to provide technical assistance to each covered entity car-*
 4 *rying out a project assisted with a grant under the Pro-*
 5 *gram.*

6 (f) *REPORT.*—*Not later than two years after the estab-*
 7 *lishment of the Program, and on an annual basis thereafter,*
 8 *the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report con-*
 9 *taining—*

10 (1) *an estimate of the amount of funds disbursed*
 11 *under the Program;*

12 (2) *an estimate of the energy conservation*
 13 *achieved as a result of the Program;*

14 (3) *a description of challenges encountered in*
 15 *implementing projects described in subsection (d)(1);*
 16 *and*

17 (4) *any recommendations as to additional legis-*
 18 *lative measures to increase the use of renewable en-*
 19 *ergy in territories of the United States, as appro-*
 20 *priate.*

21 (g) *GAO STUDY AND REPORT.*—

22 (1) *STUDY AND REPORT.*—*Not later than 180*
 23 *days after the date of the enactment of this section,*
 24 *the Comptroller General of the United States shall—*

1 (A) conduct a study regarding renewable
2 energy and energy efficiency in territories of the
3 United States; and

4 (B) submit to Congress a report con-
5 taining—

6 (i) the findings of the study; and

7 (ii) related recommendations.

8 (2) COMPONENTS.—The study conducted under
9 paragraph (1) shall consider, in relation to territories
10 of the United States, the potential—

11 (A) to modify existing electric power sys-
12 tems to use renewable energy sources;

13 (B) to expand the use of microgrids; and

14 (C) to improve energy resiliency.

15 **SEC. 405. OFFSHORE WIND FOR THE TERRITORIES.**

16 (a) APPLICATION OF OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF
17 LANDS ACT WITH RESPECT TO TERRITORIES OF THE
18 UNITED STATES.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Outer Conti-
20 nental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331) is amend-
21 ed—

22 (A) in subsection (a) by inserting “or lying
23 within the exclusive economic zone of the United
24 States and the Outer Continental Shelf adjacent
25 to any territory of the United States, except that

1 *such term shall not include any area conveyed*
 2 *by Congress to a territorial government for ad-*
 3 *ministration” after “control”;*

4 *(B) in subsection (p), by striking “and”*
 5 *after the semicolon at the end;*

6 *(C) in subsection (q), by striking the period*
 7 *at the end and inserting “; and”; and*

8 *(D) by adding at the end the following:*

9 *“(r) The term ‘State’ means the several States, the*
 10 *Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa,*
 11 *the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Common-*
 12 *wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”.*

13 *(2) EXCLUSIONS.—Section 18 of the Outer Con-*
 14 *tinental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344) is amend-*
 15 *ed by adding at the end the following:*

16 *“(i) This section shall not apply to the scheduling of*
 17 *lease sales in the Outer Continental Shelf adjacent to the*
 18 *Territories of the United States.”.*

19 *(b) WIND LEASE SALES FOR AREAS OF OUTER CONTI-*
 20 *NENTAL SHELF.—The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act*
 21 *(43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end*
 22 *the following:*

1 **“SEC. 33. WIND LEASE SALES FOR AREAS OF OUTER CONTI-**
 2 **NENTAL SHELF.**

3 “(a) *AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary may conduct*
 4 *wind lease sales on the Outer Continental Shelf.*

5 “(b) *WIND LEASE SALE PROCEDURE.—Any wind*
 6 *lease sale conducted under this section shall be considered*
 7 *a lease under section 8(p).*

8 “(c) *WIND LEASE SALES OFF COASTS OF TERRI-*
 9 *TORIES OF THE UNITED STATES.—*

10 “(1) *STUDY ON FEASIBILITY OF CONDUCTING*
 11 *WIND LEASE SALES.—*

12 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall*
 13 *conduct a study on the feasibility, including the*
 14 *technological and long-term economic feasibility,*
 15 *and the potential environmental effects of, con-*
 16 *ducting wind lease sales on an area of the Outer*
 17 *Continental Shelf within the territorial jurisdic-*
 18 *tion of American Samoa, Guam, the Common-*
 19 *wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto*
 20 *Rico, and the Virgin Islands of the United*
 21 *States.*

22 “(B) *CONSULTATION.—In conducting the*
 23 *study required in subparagraph (A), the Sec-*
 24 *retary shall consult—*

1 “(i) the National Laboratories, that
2 term is defined in section 2 of the Energy
3 Policy Act of 2005;

4 “(ii) the National Oceanic and Atmos-
5 pheric Administration, including the Office
6 of National Marine Sanctuaries and Na-
7 tional Marine Fisheries Service; and

8 “(iii) the Governor of each of American
9 Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Is-
10 lands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands
11 of the United States.

12 “(C) PUBLICATION.—The study required in
13 subparagraph (A) shall be published in the Fed-
14 eral Register for public comment for a period of
15 not fewer than 60 days.

16 “(D) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—Not later
17 than 18 months after the date of the enactment
18 of this section, the Secretary shall submit the re-
19 sults of the study conducted under subparagraph
20 (A) to—

21 “(i) the Committee on Energy and
22 Natural Resources of the Senate;

23 “(ii) the Committee on Natural Re-
24 sources of the House of Representatives; and

1 “(iii) *each Delegate or Resident Com-*
2 *missioner to the House of Representatives*
3 *from American Samoa, Guam, the Northern*
4 *Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Vir-*
5 *gin Islands of the United States.*

6 “(E) *PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary*
7 *shall publish the study required under subpara-*
8 *graph (A) and results submitted under subpara-*
9 *graph (D) on a public website.*

10 “(2) *CALL FOR INFORMATION AND NOMINA-*
11 *TIONS.—The Secretary shall issue a call for informa-*
12 *tion and nominations for proposed wind lease sales*
13 *for areas determined to be feasible under the study*
14 *conducted under paragraph (1).*

15 “(3) *CONDITIONAL WIND LEASE SALES.—*

16 “(A) *IN GENERAL.—For each territory, the*
17 *Secretary shall conduct not less than 1 wind*
18 *lease sale on an area of the Outer Continental*
19 *Shelf within the territorial jurisdiction of such*
20 *territory that meets each of the following cri-*
21 *teria:*

22 “(i) *The study required under para-*
23 *graph (1)(A) concluded that a wind lease*
24 *sale on the area is feasible.*

1 “(ii) *The Secretary has determined*
2 *that the call for information has generated*
3 *sufficient interest for the area.*

4 “(iii) *The Secretary has consulted with*
5 *the Secretary of Defense and other relevant*
6 *Federal agencies regarding such a sale.*

7 “(iv) *The Secretary has consulted with*
8 *the Governor of the territory regarding the*
9 *suitability of the area for wind energy de-*
10 *velopment.*

11 “(B) *EXCEPTION.—If no area of the Outer*
12 *Continental Shelf within the territorial jurisdic-*
13 *tion of a territory meets each of the criteria in*
14 *clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (A), the*
15 *requirement under subparagraph (A) shall not*
16 *apply to such territory.”.*

17 **SEC. 406. STATE ENERGY PROGRAM NON-FEDERAL COST-**
18 **SHARE WAIVER.**

19 *Funding made available to a territory under the De-*
20 *partment of Energy’s State Energy Program (42 U.S.C.*
21 *6321 et seq.) shall not be subject to a non-Federal share*
22 *funding requirement.*

1 ***TITLE V—ENVIRONMENTAL***
2 ***PROTECTION AGENCY***

3 ***SEC. 501. DEFINITIONS.***

4 *In this title:*

5 (1) *ADMINISTRATOR.*—*The term “Adminis-*
6 *trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-*
7 *mental Protection Agency.*

8 (2) *DIRECTOR.*—*The term “Director” means the*
9 *Director of the Insular Area National Program Office.*

10 (3) *ELIGIBLE ENTITY.*—*The term “eligible enti-*
11 *ty” means each of the following:*

12 (A) *A government, municipality, agency, or*
13 *instrumentality of a territory.*

14 (B) *A private, nonprofit organization or in-*
15 *stitution.*

16 (C) *An institution of higher education (as*
17 *defined in section 101 of the Higher Education*
18 *Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001), except that such*
19 *term does not include private, nonprofit institu-*
20 *tions of higher education).*

21 (D) *Any combination of entities described*
22 *in subparagraphs (A) through (C), including*
23 *partnerships and consortiums of local govern-*
24 *ments.*

1 (4) *OFFICE*.—The term “Office” means the Insu-
 2 lar Area National Program Office established by sec-
 3 tion 502.

4 (5) *RENEWABLE ENERGY*.—The term “renewable
 5 energy” means energy that has been derived from
 6 Earth’s natural resources that are not finite or ex-
 7 haustible, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geo-
 8 thermal, ocean (thermal and mechanics).

9 **SEC. 502. INSULAR AREA NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE.**

10 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT*.—There is established within the
 11 Environmental Protection Agency an office, to be known
 12 as the Insular Area National Program Office. The Office
 13 shall be headed by a Director, who shall be appointed by
 14 the Administrator and compensated at a rate equal to that
 15 of level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of
 16 title 5, United States Code.

17 (b) *DUTIES*.—The Director shall—

18 (1) direct, coordinate, implement, and monitor
 19 programs of the Environmental Protection Agency
 20 to—

21 (A) build, enhance, and strengthen infra-
 22 structure in Insular Areas to withstand natural
 23 disasters;

24 (B) expand renewable energy and energy ef-
 25 ficiency in Insular Areas; and

1 (C) provide technical assistance in Insular
2 Areas.

3 (2) centralize and align all ongoing Environ-
4 mental Protection Agency efforts in the Insular Areas.

5 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director shall submit an
6 annual report to the Committee on Natural Resources and
7 the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of
8 Representatives, and the Committee on Energy and Natural
9 Resources of the Senate on the status of all projects under-
10 taken and grants approved by the Office.

11 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
12 Insular Area National Program Office, there is authorized
13 to be appropriated to the Administrator \$20,000,000 for
14 each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

15 (e) NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE WAIVER.—Any fund-
16 ing made available to Insular Areas by the Office shall not
17 be subject to a non-Federal share funding requirement.

18 **SEC. 503. INSULAR AREA SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE**
19 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

20 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
21 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
22 Insular Area National Program Office shall establish and
23 carry out a program, to be known as the Insular Area Sus-
24 tainable Infrastructure Grant Program to provide grants
25 to eligible entities in the Insular Areas to build, enhance,

1 *and strengthen infrastructure systems in Insular Areas to*
2 *withstand natural disasters, including drinking water sys-*
3 *tems, septic systems, stormwater systems, and solid waste*
4 *systems.*

5 (b) *USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives*
6 *a grant for infrastructure system projects under the Insular*
7 *Areas Sustainable Infrastructure Grant Program may use*
8 *such funds for—*

9 (1) *development-phase activities, including plan-*
10 *ning, feasibility analysis (including any related anal-*
11 *ysis necessary to carry out an eligible project), rev-*
12 *enue forecasting, environmental review, permitting,*
13 *preliminary engineering and design work, and other*
14 *preconstruction activities;*

15 (2) *construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation,*
16 *and replacement activities; and*

17 (3) *the acquisition of real property or an interest*
18 *in real property (including land relating to the*
19 *project, and improvements to land), environmental*
20 *mitigation, construction contingencies, and acquisi-*
21 *tion of equipment.*

22 (c) *APPLICATIONS.—*

23 (1) *INCLUSIONS.—An application under this*
24 *subsection shall include—*

1 (A) a description of the project proposed by
2 the eligible entity;

3 (B) an evaluation (using methodology ap-
4 proved by the Director) of the quantifiable and
5 unquantifiable benefits of the proposed project;

6 (C) an estimate of the cost of the proposed
7 project; and

8 (D) a description of the age and expected
9 lifetime of the infrastructure system funded by
10 the project.

11 (2) *PRIORITY.*—In providing grants under this
12 section, the Director shall give priority to proposed
13 projects that, as determined by the Director—

14 (A) maximize public health benefits;

15 (B) are the most cost effective;

16 (C) serve areas with environmental justice
17 communities—

18 (i) in rural remote areas; or

19 (ii) that have challenged environmental
20 conditions.

21 (3) *APPLICATION GUIDANCE AND PROCESSES.*—

22 The Director shall provide Insular Areas—

23 (A) guidance for use in applying for grant
24 funds under this section, including information
25 regarding—

1 (i) the process and forms for applica-
2 tions;

3 (ii) permissible uses of funds received;
4 and

5 (iii) an annual deadline for submis-
6 sion of the applications;

7 (B) a process by which the Director shall
8 approve or disapprove each application; and

9 (C) a streamlined process by which an In-
10 sular Area may renew an application described
11 in subparagraph (A) for subsequent fiscal years.

12 (d) *LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.*—

13 (1) *OFFICE.*—The Director shall use 100 percent
14 of the funds made available to carry out this section
15 to provide grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible
16 entities in Insular Areas.

17 (2) *GRANT RECIPIENT.*—An eligible entity may
18 use not more than 10 percent of a grant provided
19 under this section for administrative expenses of an
20 approved project.

21 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—To carry
22 out this section there is authorized to be appropriated to
23 the Administrator \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
24 2022 through 2026.

1 **SEC. 504. INSULAR AREA RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
5 Insular Area National Program Office shall establish and
6 carry out a program, to be known as the Insular Area Re-
7 newable Energy Grant Program to provide grants to eligi-
8 ble entities in the Insular Areas to expand renewable energy
9 and energy efficiency in the Insular Areas.

10 (b) *ELIGIBILITY.*—

11 (1) *PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE.*—The
12 following projects may be carried out with amounts
13 made available under this section:

14 (A) *Construction of a new renewable energy*
15 *system.*

16 (B) *A project for energy redundancy and*
17 *resilience based on renewable energy and for hur-*
18 *ricane and storm damage reduction on renewable*
19 *energy systems that the Director determines is*
20 *technically sound, economically justified, and en-*
21 *vironmentally acceptable.*

22 (C) *A project for enhanced energy efficiency*
23 *in the operation of infrastructure that belongs to*
24 *an eligible entity.*

25 (D) *A project for repair, rehabilitation, or*
26 *replacement of a renewable energy system.*

1 (E) A project to prevent, reduce, or mitigate
 2 the effects of hurricanes or storms, including
 3 projects that enhance the resilience of renewable
 4 energy systems.

5 (F) Acquisition of real property or an in-
 6 terest in real property—

7 (i) if the acquisition is integral to a
 8 project described in subparagraphs (A)
 9 through (D); or

10 (ii) pursuant to an existing plan that,
 11 in the judgment of the Director, as applica-
 12 ble, would mitigate the environmental im-
 13 pacts of renewable energy system infrastruc-
 14 ture projects.

15 (G) A combination of projects under sub-
 16 paragraphs (A) through (F).

17 (2) ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE.—An
 18 eligible entity may use a grant provided under this
 19 section for, with respect to an eligible project—

20 (A) development-phase activities, including
 21 planning, feasibility analysis (including any re-
 22 lated analysis necessary to carry out an eligible
 23 project), revenue forecasting, environmental re-
 24 view, permitting, preliminary engineering and
 25 design work, and other preconstruction activities;

1 (B) construction, reconstruction, rehabilita-
2 tion, and replacement activities; and

3 (C) the acquisition of real property or an
4 interest in real property (including land relating
5 to the project, and improvements to land), envi-
6 ronmental mitigation, construction contin-
7 gencies, and acquisition of equipment.

8 (c) APPLICATIONS.—

9 (1) INCLUSIONS.—An application under this
10 subsection shall include—

11 (A) a description of the project proposed by
12 the eligible entity;

13 (B) an evaluation (using methodology ap-
14 proved by the Director) of the quantifiable and
15 unquantifiable benefits of the proposed project;

16 (C) an estimate of the cost of the proposed
17 project; and

18 (D) a description of the age and expected
19 lifetime of a renewable energy or energy effi-
20 ciency system funded by the project.

21 (2) PRIORITY.—In providing grants under this
22 section, the Director shall give priority to proposed
23 projects that, as determined by the Director—

24 (A) maximize public health benefits;

25 (B) are the most cost effective;

1 (C) *serve areas with environmental justice*
 2 *communities—*

3 (i) *in rural remote areas; or*

4 (ii) *that are poor air quality areas.*

5 (3) *APPLICATION GUIDANCE AND PROCESSES.—*

6 *The Director shall provide Insular Areas—*

7 (A) *guidance for use in applying for grant*
 8 *funds under this section, including information*
 9 *regarding—*

10 (i) *the process and forms for applica-*
 11 *tions;*

12 (ii) *permissible uses of funds received;*
 13 *and*

14 (iii) *an annual deadline for submis-*
 15 *sion of the applications;*

16 (B) *a process by which the Director shall*
 17 *approve or disapprove each application; and*

18 (C) *a streamlined process by which an In-*
 19 *sular Area may renew an application described*
 20 *in subparagraph (A) for subsequent fiscal years.*

21 (d) *LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—*

22 (1) *OFFICE.—The Director shall use 100 percent*
 23 *of the funds made available to carry out this section*
 24 *to provide grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible*
 25 *entities in Insular Areas.*

1 (2) *GRANT RECIPIENT.*—*An eligible entity may*
2 *use not more than 10 percent of a grant provided*
3 *under this section to fund administrative expenses of*
4 *an approved project.*

5 (e) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*To carry*
6 *out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to*
7 *the Administrator \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years*
8 *2022 through 2026.*

9 **SEC. 505. INSULAR AREA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PRO-**
10 **GRAM.**

11 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Insular Area National Pro-*
12 *gram Office Director shall establish a program, to be known*
13 *as the Insular Area Technical Assistance Program, to pro-*
14 *vide technical assistance to Insular Areas relating to cli-*
15 *mate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resil-*
16 *ience.*

17 (b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There is*
18 *authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry*
19 *out this section \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022*
20 *through 2026.*

1 ***TITLE VI—EMERGENCY***
2 ***MANAGEMENT***

3 ***SEC. 601. COMMUNITY DISASTER LOANS REPAYMENT CAN-***
4 ***CELLATION.***

5 *Notwithstanding any other provision of law, repay-*
6 *ment of a loan made to a local government in an Insular*
7 *Area under section 417 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster*
8 *Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5184), in-*
9 *cluding any interest on such loan, shall be canceled.*

10 ***SEC. 602. DISASTER RELIEF NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE***
11 ***WAIVER.***

12 *Funding made available to an Insular Area for dis-*
13 *aster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure*
14 *and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation pur-*
15 *suant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-*
16 *gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) shall not be*
17 *subject to a non-Federal share funding requirement.*

Union Calendar No. 503

117TH CONGRESS
2^D Session

H. R. 2780

[Report No. 117-686, Part I]

A BILL

To provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes.

DECEMBER 30, 2022

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with an amendment

DECEMBER 30, 2022

Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed