



(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to use certain data sets when determining eligibility related to indemnity payments under the Hurricane Insurance Protection-Wind Index endorsement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTER of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to use certain data sets when determining eligibility related to indemnity payments under the Hurricane Insurance Protection-Wind Index endorsement, 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 "Farmers' Assistance
5 and Immediate Disaster Relief Act" or the "Farmers'
6 AID Relief Act".

1 **SEC. 2. HURRICANE INSURANCE PROTECTION-WIND INDEX**
2 **ENDORSEMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 508 of the Federal Crop
4 Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508) is amended by adding at
5 the end the following:

6 “(q) HURRICANE INSURANCE PROTECTION-WIND
7 INDEX ENDORSEMENT.—

8 “(1) DETERMINATION OF PAYMENT ELIGI-
9 BILITY.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with crop
11 year 2027, in determining whether a county is
12 eligible with respect to a hurricane weather
13 event for an indemnity payment under HIP-
14 WI, the Secretary shall—

15 “(i) use the IBTrACS data set; or

16 “(ii) subject to subparagraph (B), use
17 the alternative data set compiled pursuant
18 to paragraph (2).

19 “(B) CONDITION FOR USE OF ALTER-
20 NATIVE DATA SET.—For purposes of subpara-
21 graph (A)(ii), the Secretary may only use the
22 alternative data set compiled pursuant to para-
23 graph (2) if—

24 “(i) the data set specified in subpara-
25 graph (A)(i) is incomplete, as determined
26 by the Secretary; and

1 “(ii) one of the following conditions is
2 met:

3 “(I) A weather station operated
4 by National Weather Service in the
5 county subject to the determination of
6 eligibility in subparagraph (A), or an
7 adjacent county, was damaged.

8 “(II) Any other source of data
9 for making such determination in
10 such county or an adjacent county
11 was damaged.

12 “(III) Any such station or other
13 source provided incomplete data, as
14 determined by the Secretary.

15 “(2) COMPILATION OF ALTERNATIVE DATA
16 SET.—For purposes of determining eligibility under
17 paragraph (1)(A)(ii), the Secretary shall compile,
18 and make available to the public on the website of
19 the Department related to IHP-WI, an alternative
20 data set for the hurricane weather event prompting
21 such determination using data that—

22 “(A) is collected for a specified time period
23 during such weather event, as determined by
24 the Secretary;

1 “(B) contains the same types of data con-
2 tained in the IBTrACS data set; and

3 “(C) is consistent with the form of such
4 types of data, as determined by the Secretary.

5 “(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

6 “(A) HIIP-WI.—The term ‘HIIP-WI’
7 means the Hurricane Insurance Protection–
8 Wind Index endorsement established in 2020 by
9 the Risk Management Agency of the Depart-
10 ment.

11 “(B) IBTRACS DATA SET.—The term
12 ‘IBTrACS data set’ means the International
13 Best Track Archive for Climate Stewardship
14 data set from the National Oceanic and Atmos-
15 pheric Administration, including the season,
16 name, time, location in latitude and longitude,
17 maximum sustained winds, hurricane category,
18 and wind extents data associated with a hurri-
19 cane weather event.

20 “(C) ALTERNATIVE DATA SET.—The term
21 ‘alternative data set’ means data collected by a
22 weather station that is—

23 “(i) operated by a land-grant college
24 or university (as defined in section 1404 of
25 the National Agricultural Research, Exten-

1 sion, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7
2 U.S.C. 3103)); and

3 “(ii) certified, at the time data is col-
4 lected for purposes of paragraph (2), as
5 compliant with standards issued by the
6 National Weather Service, including the
7 standards described in the directive issued
8 on November 9, 2023, entitled ‘National
9 Weather Service Instruction 10–1302’ (or
10 successor directives).”.

11 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after
12 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agri-
13 culture shall—

14 (1) issue such rules as may be necessary to im-
15 plement the amendment made by this section; and

16 (2) revise any guidance relating to the Hurri-
17 cane Insurance Protection–Wind Index endorsement
18 established in 2020 by the Risk Management Agency
19 of the Department of Agriculture.