S.L.C.

Mario Confrance

AMENDMENT NO.

Calendar No.

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES-114th Cong., 1st Sess.

## S.2058

To require the Secretary of Commerce to maintain and operate at least one Doppler weather radar site within 55 miles of each city in the United States that has a population of more than 700,000 individuals, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by MS. Cantwell

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-

2 lowing:

## **3** SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the "Metropolitan Weather

5 Hazards Protection Act of 2015".

6 SEC. 2. STUDY ON GAPS IN NEXRAD COVERAGE AND RE-

7 QUIREMENT FOR PLAN TO ADDRESS SUCH8 GAPS.

9 (a) STUDY ON GAPS IN NEXRAD COVERAGE.—

1	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
2	the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
3	of Commerce shall complete a study on gaps in the
4	coverage of the Next Generation Weather Radar of
5	the National Weather Service (known as
6	"NEXRAD").
7	(2) ELEMENTS.—Under the study required by
8	paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—
9	(A) identify areas in the United States
10	with limited or no Next Generation Weather
11	Radar coverage below 6,000 feet above ground
12	level of the surrounding terrain;
13	(B) for the areas identified under subpara-
14	graph (A), Charlotte, North Carolina, and sur-
15	rounding counties, central Washington State,
16	northwest New Mexico, and Columbus, Ohio,
17	and surrounding counties—
18	(i) identify the key weather effects for
19	which prediction would improve with im-
20	proved radar detection;
21	(ii) identify additional sources of ob-
22	servations for high impact weather that
23	were available and operational for such
24	areas on the day before the date of the en-
25	actment of this Act, including Terminal

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1 Doppler Weather Radar (known as
2 "TDWR"), air surveillance radars of the
3 Federal Aviation Administration, and coop
4 erative network observers; and
5 (iii) assess the feasibility and advis-
6 ability of efforts to integrate and upgrade
7 Federal radar capabilities in such areas
8 that are not owned or controlled by of the
9 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
10 istration, including radar capabilities of the
11 Federal Aviation Administration and the
Department of Defense;
(C) assess the feasibility and advisability of
4 incorporating State-operated and other non-
5 Federal radars into the operations of the Na-
tional Weather Service;
(D) identify options to improve radar cov-
18 erage in the areas identified under subpara-
19 graph (A); and
20 (E) estimate the cost of, and develop a
timeline for, carrying out each of the options
22 identified under subparagraph (D).
23 (3) REPORT.—Upon the completion of the
study required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shal
submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

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Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
Science, Space, and Technology of the House of
Representatives a report on the findings of the Sec retary with respect to the study.

5 (b) PLAN TO IMPROVE RADAR COVERAGE.-Not 6 later than 30 days after the completion of the study re-7 quired by subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall develop and submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and 8 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on 9 Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Rep-10 resentatives a plan to improve radar coverage in the areas 11 12 identified under subsection (a)(2)(A) by integrating, and upgrading where practicable, additional observation solu-13 tions to improve hazardous weather detection and fore-14 15 casting.

16 (c) REQUIREMENT FOR THIRD-PARTY REVIEWS RE-17 GARDING PLAN TO IMPROVE RADAR COVERAGE.—The Secretary shall seek third-party reviews on scientific meth-18 odology relating to, and the feasibility and advisability of, 19 20 implementing the plan developed and submitted under 21 subsection (b), including the extent to which warning and forecast services of the National Weather Service would 22 23 be improved by additional Next Generation Weather 24 Radar coverage.