AMENDMENT NO. _______ Calendar No. _______

Purpose: To require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to identify a consistent, Federal set of best available forward-looking meteorological information and to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to convene an effort to make such set available, with advice and technical assistance, to standards-developing organizations.


S. 4462

To establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 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 intended to be proposed by Ms. BALDWIN

Viz:

1 At the end, add the following:

2 SEC. 14. IDENTIFICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF CONSISTENT, FEDERAL SET OF BEST AVAILABLE FORWARD-LOOKING METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION.

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:


(1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(2) EXTREME WEATHER.—The term “extreme weather” includes observed or anticipated severe and unseasonable atmospheric conditions, including drought, heavy precipitation, hurricanes, tornadoses and other windstorms (including derechos), extreme heat, extreme cold, flooding, sustained temperatures or precipitation that deviate substantially from historical averages, and any other weather event that the Under Secretary determines qualifies as extreme weather.

(3) OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL TRENDS.—The term “other environmental trends” means wildfires, coastal flooding, inland flooding, land subsidence, rising sea levels, and any other challenges relating to changes in environmental systems over time that the Under Secretary determines qualify as environmental challenges other than extreme weather.

(4) MITIGATION FRAMEWORK LEADERSHIP GROUP.—The term “Mitigation Framework Leadership Group” means the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group established pursuant to the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of


(6) LONG-TERM.—The term “long-term” shall have such meaning as the Director, in consultation with the Under Secretary, considers appropriate for purposes of this section.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF CONSISTENT, FEDERAL SET OF BEST AVAILABLE METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary shall identify and support research that enables, a consistent, Federal set of forward-looking long-term meteorological information that—

(A) models future extreme weather events, other environmental trends, projections, and up-to-date observations; and

(B) is suitable for use under subsection (c).

(2) MESOSCALE METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION.—When the Under Secretary determines ap-
propriate or upon request of the Director, the Under Secretary shall provide the Director with mesoscale meteorological information that is suitable for use under subsection (c).

(c) Advice, Technical Assistance, and Dissemination.—

(1) In general.—The Director shall, in consultation with the Under Secretary—

(A) make available to the public information identified under subsection (b);

(B) identify Federal and non-Federal efforts to develop and adopt standards, building codes, and voluntary certifications; and

(C) using the best available, consistent, Federal set of forward-looking long-term meteorological information identified under subsection (b)—

(i) advise and provide technical assistance to organizations that develop standards, model building codes, or voluntary certifications in order for such organizations to appropriately incorporate forward-looking long-term meteorological information into such standards, building codes, and voluntary certifications; and
(ii) take appropriate steps to make information identified under subsection (b) available to the entities described in clause (i) developing such standards, model building codes, and voluntary certifications.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—The Director shall carry out paragraph (1) through each of the following:


(C) Such other statutory authorities as the Director considers appropriate.

(d) WORKING GROUP.—In order to identify and support research that enable information as required under subsection (b), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the United States Global Change Research Program and the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group, shall designate a working group consisting of representatives from such Federal
agencies as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy considers appropriate.