

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 6654  
OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA OF ARIZONA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Climate Adaptation  
3 Science Centers Act” or the “CASC Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5       In this Act:

6           (1) **ADAPTATION.**—The term “adaptation”  
7 means—

8                   (A) the process of adjustment to actual or  
9 expected climate and the effects of extreme  
10 weather, climate trends, and climate variability;  
11 and

12                   (B) protection, management, and conserva-  
13 tion efforts designed to maintain or enhance the  
14 ability of people, fish, wildlife, plants, land, eco-  
15 systems, and water of the United States to  
16 withstand, adjust to, or recover from the effects  
17 of extreme weather, climate trends, and climate  
18 variability.

1           (2) ADVISORY SERVICE ACTIVITIES.—The term  
2           “advisory service activities” means activities includ-  
3           ing—

4                   (A) sharing climate science and climate ad-  
5                   aptation knowledge between National and Re-  
6                   gional Climate Adaptation Science Center re-  
7                   searchers, stakeholders, and other partners;

8                   (B) building collaborations between Na-  
9                   tional and Regional Climate Adaptation Science  
10                  Center researchers, stakeholders, and other  
11                  partners; and

12                  (C) integrating climate adaptation science  
13                  into natural and cultural resource management,  
14                  decision-making and planning.

15           (2) CULTURAL RESOURCES.—The term “cul-  
16           tural resources”—

17                   (A) means those features and values re-  
18                   lated to cultural heritage; and

19                   (B) includes—

20                           (i) biological species with cultural her-  
21                           itage or ceremonial importance, and his-  
22                           toric and precontact sites, cultural land-  
23                           scapes, trails, structures, inscriptions, art,  
24                           and artifacts on Federal lands or rep-  
25                           resentative of the culture of Indian Tribes,

1 Native Hawaiians, and Native American  
2 Pacific Islanders; and

3 (ii) resources considered to be cultural  
4 resources according to the traditional  
5 knowledge of Indian Tribes, Native Hawai-  
6 ians, and Native American Pacific Island-  
7 ers.

8 (3) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”  
9 means the Advisory Committee on Climate and Nat-  
10 ural Resource Sciences established under section 6.

11 (4) CONSORTIUM INSTITUTION.—The term  
12 “consortium institution” means college, university,  
13 State cooperative institution, State agency, Indian  
14 Tribe, Tribal College or University, Historically  
15 Black College or University, Tribal organization,  
16 Native Hawaiian organization, minority-serving in-  
17 stitution, or other educational institution or organi-  
18 zation, Federal agency, public or private organiza-  
19 tion, or any other party within each regional center  
20 other than the United States Geological Survey and  
21 the host institution.

22 (5) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
23 means the Department of the Interior.

24 (6) ECOSYSTEM SERVICES.—The term “eco-  
25 system services” means those benefits that eco-

1 systems provide humans and human society, includ-  
2 ing clean air, clean water, and other economically  
3 important services.

4 (7) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNI-  
5 VERSITIES.—The term “Historically Black Colleges  
6 and Universities” has the same meaning given the  
7 term “part B institutions” in section 322 of the  
8 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061).

9 (8) HOST INSTITUTION.—The term “host insti-  
10 tution” means the non-Federal lead organization  
11 within each regional center.

12 (9) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”  
13 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the  
14 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance  
15 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(e)).

16 (10) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The  
17 term “minority-serving institution” means a His-  
18 panic-serving institution, an Alaska Native-serving  
19 institution, a Native Hawaiian-serving institution, a  
20 Predominantly Black Institution, an Asian American  
21 and Native American Pacific Islander-serving insti-  
22 tution, or a Native American-serving nontribal insti-  
23 tution (as described in section 371 of the Higher  
24 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a))).

1           (11) NATIONAL CENTER.—The term “National  
2 Center” means the National Climate Adaptation  
3 Science Center established under section 3(a).

4           (12) NATIVE AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDERS.—  
5 The term “Native American Pacific Islanders”  
6 means any descendent of the aboriginal people of  
7 any island in the Pacific Ocean that is a territory  
8 of the United States.

9           (13) NATIVE HAWAIIAN.—The term “Native  
10 Hawaiian” means any individual who is a descend-  
11 ant of the aboriginal people who, prior to 1778, oc-  
12 cupied and exercised sovereignty in the area that  
13 now constitutes the State of Hawaii.

14           (14) NATIVE HAWAIIAN ORGANIZATION.—The  
15 term “Native Hawaiian organization” means—

16                   (A) the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;

17                   (B) Hui Malama I Na Kupuna O Hawai'i  
18 Nei; and

19                   (C) any other organization that—

20                           (i) serves and represents the interests  
21 of Native Hawaiians;

22                           (ii) has as a primary and stated pur-  
23 pose the provision of services to Native  
24 Hawaiians; and

1 (iii) has expertise in Native Hawaiian  
2 Affairs, and shall include

3 (15) NATURAL RESOURCES.—The term “nat-  
4 ural resources” has the meaning given that term in  
5 section 11.14 of title 43, Code of Federal Regula-  
6 tions.

7 (16) REGIONAL CENTER.—The term “regional  
8 center” means one of the Regional Climate Adapta-  
9 tion Science Centers established under section 3(a)  
10 that provide support for specific geographic locations  
11 in the United States.

12 (17) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
13 means the Secretary of the Interior.

14 (18) STATE.—The term “State” means—

15 (A) a State of the United States;

16 (B) the District of Columbia;

17 (C) American Samoa;

18 (D) Guam;

19 (E) the Commonwealth of the Northern  
20 Mariana Islands;

21 (F) Puerto Rico; and

22 (G) the Virgin Islands of the United  
23 States.

1           (19) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The  
2           term “Tribal College or University” means an insti-  
3           tution that—

4                   (A) qualifies for funding under the Tribally  
5           Controlled Colleges and Universities Assistance  
6           Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) or the  
7           Navajo Community College Act (25 U.S.C.  
8           640a note); or

9                   (B) is cited in section 532 of the Equity in  
10          Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (7  
11          U.S.C. 301 note).

12          (20) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “Trib-  
13          al organization” means—

14                   (A) the recognized governing body of any  
15          Indian Tribe; or

16                   (B) any legally established organization of  
17          Indians that is—

18                           (i) controlled, sanctioned, or chartered  
19                           by the recognized governing body of an In-  
20                           dian Tribe; or

21                           (ii)(I) democratically elected by the  
22                           adult members of the Indian community to  
23                           be served by such organization; and

1 (II) includes the maximum partici-  
2 tion of Indians in all phases of its activi-  
3 ties.

4 (21) UNIVERSITY.—The term “university” has  
5 the meaning given to the term “institution of higher  
6 education” in section 101(a) of the Higher Edu-  
7 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

8 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT AND DUTIES.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in collabora-  
11 tion with States, Indian Tribes, and other partner  
12 organizations, shall establish a program to be known  
13 as the “National and Regional Climate Adaptation  
14 Science Centers”, which shall—

15 (A) provide scientific expertise to agencies,  
16 organizations, individuals, Indian Tribes, tribal  
17 organizations, and Native Hawaiian organiza-  
18 tions engaged in the management of natural re-  
19 sources, cultural resources, and ecosystem serv-  
20 ices for the purpose of informing decisions that  
21 aid adaptation to a changing climate and ex-  
22 treme weather events; and

23 (B) include a National Climate Adaptation  
24 Science Center and Regional Climate Adapta-  
25 tion Science Centers.



1 (2) CHIEF; DIRECTORS.—

2 (A) CHIEF.—The Chief of the National  
3 Center shall be a United States Geological Sur-  
4 vey employee and shall be responsible for na-  
5 tional-scale and network-wide strategic initia-  
6 tives, science direction, and partnerships.

7 (B) DIRECTORS.—Each regional center  
8 shall have—

9 (i) a Federal Director who shall—

10 (I) be a United States Geological  
11 Survey employee;

12 (II) report directly to the Chief  
13 of the National Center; and

14 (III) be responsible for region-  
15 specific and cross-regional strategic  
16 initiatives and implementation of cli-  
17 mate science research agendas; and

18 (ii) a Host Institution Director who  
19 shall—

20 (I) carry out the terms and con-  
21 ditions of the financial assistance  
22 award;

23 (II) lead the institutional Consor-  
24 tium in each region; and

1 (III) oversee training and capac-  
2 ity building at the host and consor-  
3 tium institutions.

4 (C) COOPERATIVE WORK.—Each Regional  
5 Federal Director and each Host Institution Di-  
6 rector shall work cooperatively to further the  
7 mission of the relevant regional center.

8 (D) ADMINISTRATION.—The National Cen-  
9 ter and all regional centers shall be adminis-  
10 tered by the United States Geological Survey.

11 (b) DUTIES OF THE NATIONAL CENTER.—In collabo-  
12 ration with Federal agencies, States, Indian Tribes, Tribal  
13 organizations, Native Hawaiians, Native Hawaiian organi-  
14 zations, Native American Pacific Islanders, and other  
15 partner organizations, the National Center shall—

16 (1) serve as the national office for the regional  
17 centers;

18 (2) provide leadership and guidance on adminis-  
19 tration, partnerships, information management, and  
20 communications;

21 (3) develop and facilitate coordination among  
22 the regional centers;

23 (4) coordinate and collaborate with other Fed-  
24 eral agencies working on similar research and activi-  
25 ties to—

1 (A) minimize, as much as possible, the du-  
2 plication of research and effort; and

3 (B) use, as much as possible, existing data  
4 in the development of new or ongoing research;  
5 (5) conduct research on cross-regional and na-  
6 tional science priorities;

7 (6) support regional centers that—

8 (A) are hosted at a university, or a consor-  
9 tium of universities or other research institu-  
10 tions, within the region of each regional center;

11 (B) are collaborations between the Federal  
12 Director and the Host Institution Director and  
13 their staffs to address the broad scientific mis-  
14 sion and goals as defined by the National Cen-  
15 ter in a manner that is relevant to its specific  
16 geographic region and in cooperation with State  
17 and local governments, Indian Tribes, Tribal  
18 organizations, Native Hawaiians, Native Hawai-  
19 ian organizations, Native American Pacific Is-  
20 landers, and other entities within that region;

21 (C) promote research, education, training,  
22 and advisory service activities to stakeholders,  
23 Tribal governments, and the public via informa-  
24 tional publications, trainings, and other out-  
25 reach methods; and

1 (D) receive funding at the host institution  
2 through cooperative agreements, contracts, and  
3 grants under section 4; and

4 (7) acting through the Chief of the National  
5 Center, with respect to the regional centers—

6 (A) evaluate and assess the performance of  
7 the programs of regional centers every five  
8 years, using the priorities, guidelines, and quali-  
9 fications established by the Secretary under this  
10 section, and determine if the programs are well  
11 managed and carry out high-quality research,  
12 education, training, and advisory service activi-  
13 ties; and

14 (B) subject to the availability of appropria-  
15 tions, allocate funding among regional centers  
16 so as to—

17 (i) conduct regionally relevant re-  
18 search, education, training, and advisory  
19 service activities in each of the regions;

20 (ii) encourage collaborations among  
21 regional centers to address regional and  
22 national priorities established under this  
23 section;

24 (iii) ensure successful implementation  
25 and operation of regional centers;

1 (iv) to the maximum extent consistent  
2 with other provisions of this Act, provide a  
3 stable base of funding in support of the re-  
4 gional centers on 5-year terms, with addi-  
5 tional funds available annually subject to  
6 the availability of appropriations;

7 (v) encourage and promote coordina-  
8 tion and cooperation between the research,  
9 education, training, and advisory service  
10 activities of the Department and those of  
11 the host and consortium institutions; and

12 (vi) pay the official Federal Govern-  
13 ment negotiated overhead rate to the host  
14 institution and partners on the basic  
15 agreement establishing the location of the  
16 regional center.

17 (c) AUTHORITIES OF THE NATIONAL CENTER.—The  
18 National Center may—

19 (1) procure the services of appropriate public  
20 and private agencies and institutions and other  
21 qualified persons to conduct its work; and

22 (2) operate and fund a network of not fewer  
23 than nine regional centers that shall address the im-  
24 pacts of climate trends and variability, including ex-

1       treme weather events, on natural and cultural re-  
2       sources and ecosystem services.

3       (d) DESIGNATION OF THE REGIONAL CENTERS.—

4             (1) EXISTING REGIONAL CENTER DESIGNA-  
5       TIONS.—

6             (A) IN GENERAL.—Any institution or con-  
7       sortium of institutions designated as a regional  
8       center before the date of enactment of this Act  
9       shall participate in one final competition for its  
10      status as a regional center upon the conclusion  
11      of its existing 5-year term to assure that the  
12      host institutions and association consortium in-  
13      stitutions update proposals recognizing the  
14      long-term commitment as a host.

15            (B) RECOMPETES.—After the next com-  
16      petition for regional center after the date of en-  
17      actment of this Act, a designated regional cen-  
18      ter shall not have to recompete on 5-year terms,  
19      but shall be subject to review on 5-year terms  
20      as described in paragraph (2). After competed,  
21      the final agreements shall only be recompleted  
22      in the event of a failed review.

23            (2) REVIEWS OF THE REGIONAL CENTERS.—

24            (A) The Chief of the National Center, in  
25      consultation with the Committee, shall establish

1 guidelines for 5-year merit reviews of each re-  
2 gional center, which shall include guidelines for

3 —

4 (i) the establishment of a statement of  
5 objectives, agreed upon by the National  
6 Center and regional host institutions at the  
7 beginning of the 5-year term, that outline  
8 the expectations of activities or measures  
9 of success to be completed during the  
10 agreed upon period; and

11 (ii) an independent merit review, con-  
12 ducted by the National Center, of the host  
13 institution's activities as related to the  
14 statement of objectives.

15 (B) If a regional center does not meet the  
16 requirements included in the statement of ob-  
17 jective as determined by the independent merit  
18 review referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii), the  
19 host institution or consortium of institutions  
20 may not continue as a host of a regional center.

21 (C) If a host institution or consortium of  
22 institution fails a merit review referred to in  
23 subparagraph (A)(ii), the Chief of the National  
24 Center may give the host institution or consor-  
25 tium of institutions a probationary period of

1           one year. After the one-year probationary pe-  
2           riod, the Chief of the National Center shall un-  
3           dertake an additional review referred to in sub-  
4           paragraph (A)(ii) to determine if the host insti-  
5           tution or consortium of institutions shall—

6                   (i) continue as a host of a regional  
7                   center; or

8                   (ii) not continue as a host of a re-  
9                   gional center, in which case the Chief of  
10                  the National Center shall initiate a com-  
11                  petitive process to select a new host insti-  
12                  tution .

13                  (D) The Chief of the National Center shall  
14                  ensure that reviews completed pursuant to this  
15                  paragraph are publicly available.

16                  (2) CHANGES TO CONSORTIUM INSTITUTIONS.—

17                  The Chief of the National Center, in consultation  
18                  with the Federal Director and Host Institution Di-  
19                  rector of a regional center, may add or remove con-  
20                  sortium institutions at any time to address regional  
21                  and national priorities established under this section.

22                  (3) FACA.—Committees, subcommittees, and  
23                  working groups appointed by Federal Directors of  
24                  the regional centers pursuant to this subsection shall



1 not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee  
2 Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

3 (e) DUTIES OF THE REGIONAL CENTERS.—In col-  
4 laboration with Federal and State natural resources agen-  
5 cies and departments, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations,  
6 Native Hawaiians, Native Hawaiian organizations, Native  
7 American Pacific Islanders, Tribal Colleges or Univer-  
8 sities, Historically Black Colleges or Universities, minor-  
9 ity-serving institutions, universities, other research or edu-  
10 cational institutions, and other partner organizations, re-  
11 gional centers shall develop research, education, training,  
12 and advisory service priorities regarding the impacts of cli-  
13 mate trends and variability on natural and cultural re-  
14 source management in their regions for the purpose of cli-  
15 mate adaptation.

16 (f) PROJECT SOLICITATION .—Subject to the avail-  
17 ability of appropriations, each regional center shall under-  
18 go a project solicitation process annually that shall—

19 (1) include regionally identified science priority  
20 topics;

21 (2) work with science partners in the region to  
22 develop a scientific review process to assure the  
23 highest quality of proposals are selected; and

1           (3) final decisions on annual project selections  
2           shall be made by the Federal Directors of the re-  
3           gional centers.

4 **SEC. 4. GENERAL AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS,**  
5                           **GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND**  
6                           **INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.**

7           (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Director of the United States  
8 Geological Survey is authorized to enter into contracts,  
9 grants, and cooperative agreements with a host institution  
10 or consortium institution to further the research, edu-  
11 cation, training, and advisory service activities of the De-  
12 partment or its partners relating to impacts of climate  
13 trends and variability. This authority supplements all  
14 other laws relating to the Department and is not to be  
15 construed as limiting or repealing any existing authorities.

16           (b) **LEGAL INSTRUMENTS.**—The Director of the  
17 United States Geological Survey may use a contract,  
18 grant, cooperative agreement, or interagency agreement as  
19 the legal instrument reflecting a relationship between the  
20 Secretary and a host institution or consortium institution,  
21 to further the duties under section 3 without regard to—

22                   (1) any requirements for competition;

23                   (2) section 6101 of title 41, United States  
24           Code; or

1           (3) subsections (a) and (b) of section 3324 of  
2           title 31, United States Code.

3           (c) PARTICIPATION OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Not-  
4           withstanding any other provision of law, any Federal  
5           agency may participate in any such cooperative agreement  
6           under this section by contributing funds through the Na-  
7           tional Center or otherwise if it is mutually agreed that  
8           the objectives of the agreement shall further the author-  
9           ized programs of the contributing agency.

10          (d) APPROVAL REQUIRED.—In any case where a con-  
11          tract is let or grant made to an organization to perform  
12          services benefitting more than one Indian Tribe, the ap-  
13          proval of each such Indian Tribe shall be a prerequisite  
14          to the letting or making of such contract or grant.

15       **SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY COOPERATION.**

16          Each department, agency, or other instrumentality of  
17          the Federal Government, that is engaged in or concerned  
18          with, or that has authority over, matters relating to nat-  
19          ural and cultural resources, ecosystem services, or climate  
20          variability or change, including all member agencies of the  
21          United States Global Change Research Program—

22                (1) shall, upon a written request from the Sec-  
23                retary, furnish any available data or other informa-  
24                tion that the Secretary deems necessary to carry out  
25                any provision of section 3;

1           (2) shall cooperate with the National Center,  
2 regional centers, and duly authorized officials there-  
3 of;

4           (3) may make available, on a reimbursable  
5 basis or otherwise, any personnel (with their consent  
6 and without prejudice to their position and rating),  
7 service, or facility which the Chief of the National  
8 Center deems necessary to carry out any provision  
9 of section 3; and

10          (4) may transfer budgetary resources or other-  
11 wise enter into interagency agreements, including  
12 funding, facilities, computational resources, data, or  
13 other tangible or intangible resources, between the  
14 National Center or regional centers to aid collabo-  
15 rative work among Federal agencies, when approved  
16 by the Chief of the National Center and their coun-  
17 terpart in the other Federal agency.

18 **SEC. 6. COMMITTEES.**

19          (a) **AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH COMMITTEES.**—The  
20 Chief of the National Center may establish committees or  
21 working groups and procedures to facilitate public partici-  
22 pation in the advisory process, such as a national advisory  
23 committee for the National Center, stakeholder advisory  
24 committees and science implementation panels for the re-

1 gional centers, and working groups for review of competi-  
2 tive.

3 (b) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

4 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days  
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and pur-  
6 suant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5  
7 U.S.C. App.), the Secretary shall establish an Advi-  
8 sory Committee on Climate and Natural Resource  
9 Sciences to advise the National and Regional Cli-  
10 mate Adaptation Science Centers on the following:

11 (A) The contents of a national strategy  
12 identifying key climate adaptation science prior-  
13 ities to advance the management of natural and  
14 cultural resources in the face of climate change.

15 (B) The nature, extent, and quality of re-  
16 lations with and facilitating engagement of key  
17 partners at the regional center level.

18 (C) The nature and effectiveness of mecha-  
19 nisms to effectively deliver science information  
20 and tools, and build capacity, to aid the natural  
21 and cultural resource management community  
22 and decision-makers in adapting to a changing  
23 climate.

1 (D) Mechanisms that may be employed by  
2 the National Center to ensure high standards of  
3 scientific quality and integrity in its products.

4 (E) The integration of equity, particularly  
5 for historically underserved communities, in the  
6 operation of the National Center and regional  
7 centers.

8 (2) VOTING MEMBERS.—The Committee shall  
9 have not fewer than 15 voting members who shall be  
10 appointed by the Secretary. Each voting member  
11 shall be an employee of—

12 (A) an Indian Tribe;

13 (B) a Tribal organization;

14 (C) a Native Hawaiian organization;

15 (D) a State or local government;

16 (E) nongovernmental organization whose  
17 primary mission is conservation and related sci-  
18 entific and advocacy activities;

19 (F) an academic institution; or

20 (G) other sectors, environmental justice or-  
21 ganizations, or private industry.

22 (3) NON-VOTING MEMBERS.—A Host Institu-  
23 tion Director who is elected by the various Host In-  
24 stitution Directors shall serve as a non-voting mem-  
25 ber of the Committee. No individual is eligible to be

1 a voting member of the Committee if the individual  
2 is—

3 (A) a Host Institution Director;

4 (B) a full-time officer or employee of the  
5 United States; or

6 (C) a voting member of the Committee  
7 who is an applicant for or beneficiary of any  
8 grant or contract under this Act shall abstain  
9 from voting when there is a conflict of interest.

10 (4) CHAIR.—The Director of the United States  
11 Geological Survey shall appoint a Committee Chair  
12 from among the members of the Committee.

13 (5) VICE CHAIR.—The Committee shall select  
14 one voting member to serve as the Vice Chair, who  
15 shall act as Chair in the absence or incapacity of the  
16 Chair.

17 (6) NOMINATIONS.—Not less than once each  
18 year, the Secretary shall publish a notice in the Fed-  
19 eral Register soliciting nominations for membership  
20 on the Committee.

21 (7) TERM OF OFFICE.—(A) The term of office  
22 of a voting member of the Committee shall be not  
23 more than 3 years.

1 (B) No individual may serve more than two  
2 consecutive terms as a voting member of the Com-  
3 mittee.

4 (C) The Chair may extend the term of office of  
5 a voting member of the Committee by up to 1 year.

6 (D) Any individual appointed to a partial or full  
7 term may be reappointed for one additional full  
8 term.

9 (8) DUTIES.—The Committee shall identify and  
10 recommend priorities for ongoing research needs on  
11 the issues described in section 3(e) to inform the re-  
12 search priorities of the National Center.

13 (9) ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF  
14 MEETINGS.—The Committee shall meet approxi-  
15 mately one to two times annually, and at such other  
16 times as designated by the Director of the United  
17 States Geological Survey.

18 (c) COMMITTEES; WORKING GROUPS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—At the direction of the Sec-  
20 retary, the Chief of the National Center may estab-  
21 lish committees or working groups to provide input  
22 on the science priorities, implementation of science  
23 programs, review of competitive proposals, and eval-  
24 uation of the National Center and the regional cen-  
25 ters.



1           (2) MEMBERS.—The committees or working  
2 groups shall, to the extent practicable, include mem-  
3 bers from Federal and State government, univer-  
4 sities, private sector, nongovernmental organizations,  
5 Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Native Ha-  
6 waiian organizations.

7           (3) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary  
8 may establish procedures to facilitate public partici-  
9 pation in the advisory process, including providing  
10 advance notice of meetings, providing adequate op-  
11 portunity for public input and comment, maintaining  
12 appropriate records, and making a record of the pro-  
13 ceedings of meetings available for public inspection.

14           (4) IMPLEMENTATION; AVAILABILITY OF  
15 RECORDS.—The Secretary shall ensure that the pro-  
16 cedures described in paragraph (3) are adopted and  
17 implemented and that the records described in para-  
18 graph (3) are accurately maintained and available  
19 for public inspection.

20           (5) FACCA.—(A) The committees or working  
21 groups shall not be considered advisory committees  
22 under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5  
23 U.S.C. App.).

1           (B) Seeking advice and input under subpara-  
2           graph (A) shall not be subject to the Federal Advi-  
3           sory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

4 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5           There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
6           retary to carry out this Act not less than—

- 7           (1) \$84,000,000 for fiscal year 2023;  
8           (2) \$94,000,000 for fiscal year 2024;  
9           (3) \$104,000,000 for fiscal year 2025;  
10          (4) \$114,000,000 for fiscal year 2026; and  
11          (5) \$124,000,000 for fiscal year 2027.

