

**Section-by-Section of H.R. 1786**  
*National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization of 2013*

**Section 1. Short Title**

This section establishes the short title as the “National Windstorm Impact Reduction Reauthorization Act of 2013.”

**Section 2. Definitions**

This section amends the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 to define the “Director” of the Program as the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) rather than the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

**Section 3. National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program**

This section identifies the four agencies that make up the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program (NWIRP): NIST, the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); defines NIST as the lead program agency; and assigns responsibilities to the four program agencies.

As the new lead agency, NIST’s activities include planning and coordinating the Program; supporting the development of performance-based engineering tools; requesting the assistance of Federal agencies other than Program agencies as necessary; coordinating all Federal post-windstorm investigations; and issuing recommendations to assist in informing model codes when warranted by research or investigative findings. In addition to the lead agency responsibilities, NIST shall also conduct research and development to improve model building codes, voluntary standards, and best practices for the design, construction, and retrofit of buildings, structures, and lifelines.

NSF activities include research in engineering and the atmospheric sciences to improve the understanding of the behavior of windstorms and their impact on buildings, structures, and lifelines.

NOAA activities include the support of atmospheric science research to improve the understanding of the behavior of windstorms and their impact on buildings, structures, and lifelines.

FEMA activities include the development of risk assessment tools and effective mitigation techniques; data collection and analysis; and public outreach, information dissemination, and implementation of mitigation measures.

Additionally, this section creates an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction. The Committee is chaired by the Director of NIST and is made up of the heads of FEMA, NOAA, NSF, OSTP, the Office of Management and the Budget (OMB), and the head of any other Federal agency the Chair considers appropriate. The Committee is to meet not less than 2 times a year and is tasked with developing and submitting to Congress a strategic plan, progress report, and coordinated budget for the Program.

#### **Section 4. National Advisory Committee on Windstorm Impact Reduction**

This section amends the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 to reauthorize and update an existing Advisory Committee for NWIRP of at least 7 relevant non-Federal employee experts to offer recommendations and assessments on program developments, priorities, coordination, and revisions as necessary. This section requires the Advisory Committee to report to the Director of NIST on the assessment and its recommendations at least every two years. The authority for the Advisory Committee terminates on September 30, 2016.

#### **Section 5. Authorization of Appropriations**

This section provides authorizations of appropriations as follows:

For FEMA: \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year 2014 through 2016.

For NSF: \$11,400,000 for each fiscal year 2014 through 2016.

For NIST: \$5,500,000 for each fiscal year 2014 through 2016.

For NOAA: \$2,500,000 for each fiscal year 2014 through 2016.