AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3756
OFFERED BY MS. CLARKE OF NEW YORK

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Department of Homeland Security Climate Change Research Act”.

3 SEC. 2. CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND PROTECTION AND PREPAREDNESS.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

5 “SEC. 323. CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for Science and Technology—

7 “(1) shall evaluate existing Federal research regarding approaches to mitigate the potential or identified effects of climate change on homeland security to identify areas for further research and development pursuant to paragraph (2) with respect to—
“(A) any potential or identified effects of climate change on homeland security;

“(B) the degree to which such potential or identified effects are reflected in preparedness and emergency planning and policies, including with respect to preparedness, response to, and recovery from natural disasters; and

“(C) the degree to which the Federal funding structure to respond to major disaster declarations and emergency declarations is adequately structured to address such potential or identified effects; and

“(2) may, to the extent practicable, conduct research and development on approaches to mitigate the potential or identified effects of climate change on homeland security in response to the evaluation under paragraph (1).

“(b) Scope.—The scope of the research and development under subsection (a)(2) shall include the following:

“(1) Any potential or identified effects of climate change on homeland security.

“(2) The degree to which such potential or identified effects of climate change are reflected in preparedness and emergency planning and policies,
including with respect to preparedness, response to, and recovery from natural disasters.

“(3) The degree to which the Federal funding structure to respond to major disaster declarations and emergency declarations is adequately structured to address such potential or identified effects.

“(c) CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION.—In carrying out this section, the Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall consult, and may, as appropriate, coordinate, with the heads of other relevant agencies and departments of the Federal Government, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, and relevant owners and operators of critical infrastructure.

“(d) CLIMATE CHANGE DEFINED.—The term ‘climate change’ refers to detectable changes in one or more climate system components that is directly or indirectly attributed to—

“(1) human activity; and

“(2) altering the composition of the global atmosphere.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 322 the following new item:

“Sec. 323. Climate change research and development.”.
SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for three years, the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on any research and development activities carried out pursuant to section 323 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by this Act.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security to research and evaluate existing Federal research regarding approaches to mitigate the potential or identified effects of climate change on homeland security to identify areas for further research within the Department and authorize, research, and develop approaches to mitigate the consequences of climate change on homeland security, and for other purposes.”.