

# [Discussion Draft]

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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To provide for the establishment of the National Volcano Early Warning  
and Monitoring System.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

## **A BILL**

To provide for the establishment of the National Volcano  
Early Warning and Monitoring System.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Volcano Early  
5 Warning and Monitoring System Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

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1           (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-  
3 rector of the United States Geological Survey.

4           (2) SYSTEM.—The term “System” means the  
5 National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring  
6 System established under section 3(a)(1).

7 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL VOLCANO EARLY WARNING AND MONI-**  
8 **TORING SYSTEM.**

9           (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

10           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish  
11 within the United States Geological Survey a sys-  
12 tem, to be known as the “National Volcano Early  
13 Warning and Monitoring System”, to monitor, warn,  
14 and protect citizens of the United States from undue  
15 and avoidable harm from volcanic activity.

16           (2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the System  
17 are—

18           (A) to organize, modernize, standardize,  
19 and stabilize the monitoring systems of the vol-  
20 cano observatories in the United States, which  
21 include the Alaska Volcano Observatory, Cali-  
22 fornia Volcano Observatory, Cascades Volcano  
23 Observatory, Hawaiian Volcano Observatory,  
24 and Yellowstone Volcano Observatory; and

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1 (B) to unify the monitoring systems of vol-  
2 cano observatories in the United States into a  
3 single interoperative system.

4 (3) OBJECTIVE.—The objective of the System is  
5 to monitor all the volcanoes in the United States at  
6 a level commensurate with the threat posed by the  
7 volcanoes by—

8 (A) upgrading existing networks on mon-  
9 itored volcanoes;

10 (B) installing new networks on  
11 unmonitored volcanoes; and

12 (C) employing geodetic and other compo-  
13 nents when applicable.

14 (b) SYSTEM COMPONENTS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—The System shall include—

16 (A) a national volcano watch office that is  
17 operational 24 hours a day and 7 days a week;

18 (B) a national volcano data center; and

19 (C) an external grants program to support  
20 research in volcano monitoring science and  
21 technology.

22 (2) MODERNIZATION ACTIVITIES.—Moderniza-  
23 tion activities under the System shall include the  
24 comprehensive application of emerging technologies,  
25 including digital broadband seismometers, real-time

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1 continuous Global Positioning System receivers, sat-  
2 ellite and airborne radar interferometry, acoustic  
3 pressure sensors, and spectrometry to measure gas  
4 emissions.

5 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

6 (1) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180  
8 days after the date of enactment of this Act,  
9 the Secretary shall submit to Congress a 5-year  
10 management plan for establishing and oper-  
11 ating the System.

12 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The management plan  
13 submitted under subparagraph (A) shall in-  
14 clude—

15 (i) annual cost estimates for mod-  
16 ernization activities and operation of the  
17 System;

18 (ii) annual milestones, standards, and  
19 performance goals; and

20 (iii) recommendations for, and  
21 progress towards, establishing new, or en-  
22 hancing existing, partnerships to leverage  
23 resources.

24 (2) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary  
25 shall establish an advisory committee to assist the

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1 Secretary in implementing the System, to be com-  
2 prised of representatives of relevant agencies and  
3 members of the scientific community, to be ap-  
4 pointed by the Secretary.

5 (3) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary may enter  
6 into cooperative agreements with institutions of  
7 higher education and State agencies designating the  
8 institutions of higher education and State agencies  
9 as volcano observatory partners for the System.

10 (4) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall co-  
11 ordinate the activities under this Act with the heads  
12 of relevant Federal agencies, including—

13 (A) the Secretary of Transportation;

14 (B) the Administrator of the Federal Avia-  
15 tion Administration;

16 (C) the Administrator of the National Oce-  
17 anic and Atmospheric Administration; and

18 (D) the Director of the Federal Emergency  
19 Management Administration.

20 (d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Annually, the Secretary shall  
21 submit to Congress a report that describes the activities  
22 carried out under this Act.

## 23 **SEC. 4. FUNDING.**

24 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
25 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry

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1 out this Act \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018  
2 through 2024.

3 (b) EFFECT ON OTHER SOURCES OF FEDERAL  
4 FUNDING.—Amounts made available under this section  
5 shall supplement, and not supplant, Federal funds made  
6 available for other United States Geological Survey haz-  
7 ards activities and programs.