

(6) Risk notification systems that coordinate with and build upon existing systems and actively engage decisionmakers, State, local, tribal, and territorial governments and agencies, business communities, nongovernmental organizations, and the media.

**(e) No preemption with respect to designation of at-risk areas**

The establishment of national standards for inundation models under this section shall not prevent States, territories, tribes, and local governments from designating additional areas as being at risk based on knowledge of local conditions.

**(f) No new regulatory authority**

Nothing in this chapter may be construed as establishing new regulatory authority for any Federal agency.

(Pub. L. 109–424, § 5, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2906; Pub. L. 109–479, title VIII, § 805, Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3657; Pub. L. 115–25, title V, §§ 505(a), (b), 512(a), Apr. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 121, 128.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 109–424 and title VIII of Pub. L. 109–479 enacted substantially identical sections. Pub. L. 109–424 was repealed by section 512(a) of Pub. L. 115–25.

AMENDMENTS

2017—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115–25, § 505(a), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Administrator, through the National Weather Service and in consultation with other relevant Administration offices, shall conduct a community-based tsunami hazard mitigation program to improve tsunami preparedness of at-risk areas in the United States and its territories.”

Subsecs. (c) to (f). Pub. L. 115–25, § 505(b), added subsecs. (c) to (f) and struck out former subsecs. (c) and (d) which related to program components and provided a savings clause, respectively.

**§ 3205. Tsunami research program**

**(a) In general**

The Administrator shall, in consultation with such other Federal agencies, State, tribal, and territorial governments, and academic institutions as the Administrator considers appropriate, the coordinating committee under section 3204(d)<sup>1</sup> of this title, and the panel under section 3206a(a) of this title, support or maintain a tsunami research program to develop detection, forecast, communication, and mitigation science and technology, including advanced sensing techniques, information and communication technology, data collection, analysis, assessment for tsunami tracking and numerical forecast modeling, and standards development.

**(b) Responsibilities**

The research program supported or maintained under subsection (a) shall—

- (1) consider other appropriate and cost effective solutions to mitigate the impact of tsunami, including the improvement of near-field and distant tsunami detection and forecasting capabilities, which may include use of a new generation of the Deep-ocean Assessment and

Reporting of Tsunamis array, integration of tsunami sensors into commercial and Federal telecommunications cables, and other real-time tsunami monitoring systems and super-computer capacity of the Administration to develop a rapid tsunami forecast for all United States coastlines;

(2) coordinate with the National Weather Service on technology to be transferred to operations;

(3) conduct social science research to develop and assess community warning, education, and evacuation materials;

(4) develop the technical basis for validation of tsunami maps, numerical tsunami models, digital elevation models, and forecasts; and

(5) ensure that research and findings are available to the public and the scientific community.

(Pub. L. 109–424, § 6, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2907; Pub. L. 109–479, title VIII, § 806, Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3658; Pub. L. 115–25, title V, §§ 506, 512(a), Apr. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 123, 128.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 109–424 and title VIII of Pub. L. 109–479 enacted substantially identical sections. Pub. L. 109–424 was repealed by section 512(a) of Pub. L. 115–25.

AMENDMENTS

2017—Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(1), (2), designated first and second sentences of existing provisions as subsecs. (a) and (b), respectively, and inserted headings.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(1), (2), substituted “The Administrator shall, in consultation with such other Federal agencies, State, tribal, and territorial governments, and academic institutions as the Administrator considers appropriate, the coordinating committee under section 3204(d) of this title, and the panel under section 3206a(a) of this title, support or maintain” for “The Administrator shall, in consultation with other agencies and academic institutions, and with the coordinating committee established under section 3204(b) of this title, establish or maintain” and “assessment for tsunami tracking and numerical forecast modeling, and standards development.” for “and assessment for tsunami tracking and numerical forecast modeling.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(2), substituted “The research program supported or maintained under subsection (a) shall—” for “Such research program shall—”.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(3)(A), amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “consider other appropriate research to mitigate the impact of tsunami;”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(3)(B), substituted “conduct” for “include” and struck out “and” at end.

Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(3)(D), added par. (4). Former par. (4) redesignated (5).

Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 115–25, § 506(3)(C), (E), redesignated par. (4) as (5) and substituted “to the public and the scientific community” for “to the scientific community”.

**§ 3206. Global tsunami warning and mitigation network**

**(a) Support for development of an international tsunami warning system**

The Administrator shall, in coordination with the Secretary of State and in consultation with such other agencies as the Administrator considers relevant, provide technical assistance, operational support, and training to the Inter-

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should read “section 3204(b)”.

governmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the World Meteorological Organization of the United Nations, and such other international entities as the Administrator considers appropriate, as part of the international efforts to develop a fully functional global tsunami forecast and warning system comprised of regional tsunami warning networks.

**(b) International Tsunami Information Center**

The Administrator, through the National Weather Service and in consultation with other relevant Administration offices, in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, may operate an International Tsunami Information Center to improve tsunami preparedness for all Pacific Ocean nations participating in the International Tsunami Warning System of the Pacific, and may also provide such assistance to other nations participating in a global tsunami warning system established through the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. As part of its responsibilities around the world, the Center may—

- (1) monitor international tsunami warning activities around the world;
- (2) assist member states in establishing national warning systems, and make information available on current technologies for tsunami warning systems;
- (3) maintain a library of materials to promulgate knowledge about tsunamis in general and for use by the scientific community; and
- (4) disseminate information, including educational materials and research reports.

**(c) Detection equipment; technical advice and training**

In carrying out this section, the National Weather Service—

- (1) shall give priority to assisting nations in identifying vulnerable coastal areas, creating inundation maps, obtaining or designing real-time detection and reporting equipment, and supporting communication and warning networks and contact points in each vulnerable nation;
- (2) may support a process for transfer of detection and communication technology to affected nations for the purposes of supporting the international tsunami warning system; and
- (3) shall provide technical and other assistance to support international tsunami programs.

**(d) Data-sharing requirement**

The National Weather Service, when deciding to provide assistance under this section, may take into consideration the data sharing policies and practices of nations proposed to receive such assistance, with a goal to encourage all nations to support full and open exchange of data.

(Pub. L. 109-424, § 7, Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 2907; Pub. L. 109-479, title VIII, § 807, Jan. 12, 2007, 120 Stat. 3659; Pub. L. 115-25, title V, §§ 507, 512(a), Apr. 18, 2017, 131 Stat. 124, 128.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 109-424 and title VIII of Pub. L. 109-479 enacted substantially identical sections. Pub. L. 109-424 was repealed by section 512(a) of Pub. L. 115-25.

AMENDMENTS

2017—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115-25, § 507(1), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Administrator, through the National Weather Service and in consultation with other relevant Administration offices, in coordination with other members of the United States Interagency Committee of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, shall provide technical assistance and training to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the World Meteorological Organization, and other international entities, as part of international efforts to develop a fully functional global tsunami forecast and warning system comprising regional tsunami warning networks, modeled on the International Tsunami Warning System of the Pacific.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-25, § 507(2), in introductory provisions, substituted “may operate” for “shall operate” and “the Center may” for “the Center shall”.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 115-25, § 507(3)(A), substituted “supporting” for “establishing”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 115-25, § 507(3)(B), substituted “support” for “establish” and “supporting” for “establishing”.

**§ 3206a. Tsunami Science and Technology Advisory Panel**

**(a) Designation**

The Administrator shall designate an existing working group within the Science Advisory Board of the Administration to serve as the Tsunami Science and Technology Advisory Panel to provide advice to the Administrator on matters regarding tsunami science, technology, and regional preparedness.

**(b) Membership**

**(1) Composition**

The Panel shall be composed of no fewer than 7 members selected by the Administrator from among individuals from academia or State agencies who have academic or practical expertise in physical sciences, social sciences, information technology, coastal resilience, emergency management, or such other disciplines as the Administrator considers appropriate.

**(2) Federal employment**

No member of the Panel may be a Federal employee.

**(c) Responsibilities**

Not less frequently than once every 4 years, the Panel shall—

- (1) review the activities of the Administration, and other Federal activities as appropriate, relating to tsunami research, detection, forecasting, warning, mitigation, resiliency, and preparation; and
- (2) submit to the Administrator and such others as the Administrator considers appropriate—

- (A) the findings of the working group with respect to the most recent review conducted under paragraph (1); and
- (B) such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the working group considers appropriate to improve Federal tsunami research, detection, forecasting, warning, mitigation, resiliency, and preparation.

**(d) Reports to Congress**

Not less frequently than once every 4 years, the Administrator shall submit to the Commit-