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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of cyanotoxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LATTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of cyanotoxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

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 “Drinking Water Pro-
5 tection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT.—At the end of part E of the Safe
3 Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) add the fol-
4 lowing new section:

5 **“SEC. 1459. CYANOTOXIN RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGE-**
6 **MENT.**

7 “(a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—

8 “(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 90 days
9 after the date of enactment of this section, the Ad-
10 ministrator shall develop and submit to Congress a
11 strategic plan for assessing and managing risks as-
12 sociated with cyanotoxins in drinking water provided
13 by public water systems. The strategic plan shall in-
14 clude steps and timelines to—

15 “(A) evaluate the risk to human health
16 from drinking water provided by public water
17 systems contaminated with cyanotoxins;

18 “(B) establish, publish, and update a com-
19 prehensive list of cyanotoxins determined by the
20 Administrator to be harmful to human health
21 when present in drinking water provided by
22 public water systems;

23 “(C) summarize—

24 “(i) the known adverse human health
25 effects of cyanotoxins included on the list
26 published under subparagraph (B) when

1 present in drinking water provided by pub-
2 lic water systems; and

3 “(ii) factors that cause cyanobacteria
4 to proliferate and express toxins;

5 “(D) with respect to cyanotoxins included
6 on the list published under subparagraph (B),
7 determine whether to—

8 “(i) publish health advisories pursuant
9 to section 1412(b)(1)(F) for such
10 cyanotoxins in drinking water provided by
11 public water systems;

12 “(ii) establish guidance regarding fea-
13 sible analytical methods to quantify the
14 presence of cyanotoxins; and

15 “(iii) establish guidance regarding the
16 frequency of monitoring necessary to deter-
17 mine if such cyanotoxins are present in
18 drinking water provided by public water
19 systems;

20 “(E) recommend feasible treatment op-
21 tions, including procedures and equipment, to
22 mitigate any adverse public health effects of
23 cyanotoxins included on the list published under
24 subparagraph (B); and

1 “(F) enter into cooperative agreements
2 with, and provide technical assistance to, af-
3 fected States and public water systems, as iden-
4 tified by the Administrator, for the purpose of
5 managing risks associated with cyanotoxins in-
6 cluded on the list published under subpara-
7 graph (B).

8 “(2) UPDATES.—The Administrator shall, as
9 appropriate, update and submit to Congress the
10 strategic plan developed under paragraph (1).

11 “(b) INFORMATION COORDINATION.—In carrying out
12 this section the Administrator shall—

13 “(1) identify gaps in the Agency’s under-
14 standing of cyanobacteria, including—

15 “(A) the human health effects of
16 cyanotoxins included on the list published under
17 subsection (a)(1)(B); and

18 “(B) methods and means of testing and
19 monitoring for the presence of harmful
20 cyanotoxins in source water of, or drinking
21 water provided by, public water systems;

22 “(2) as appropriate, consult with—

23 “(A) other Federal agencies that—

24 “(i) examine or analyze cyanobacteria;

25 or

1 “(ii) address public health concerns
2 related to harmful algal blooms;
3 “(B) States;
4 “(C) operators of public water systems;
5 “(D) multinational agencies;
6 “(E) foreign governments; and
7 “(F) research and academic institutions;

8 and

9 “(3) assemble and publish information from
10 each Federal agency that has—

11 “(A) examined or analyzed cyanobacteria;

12 or

13 “(B) addressed public health concerns re-
14 lated to harmful algal blooms.

15 “(c) USE OF SCIENCE.—The Administrator shall
16 carry out this section in accordance with the requirements
17 described in section 1412(b)(3)(A), as applicable.

18 “(d) FEASIBLE.—For purposes of this section, the
19 term ‘feasible’ has the meaning given such term in section
20 1412(b)(4)(D).”.

21 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller
23 General of the United States shall prepare and submit to
24 Congress a report that includes—

25 (1) an inventory of funds—

1 (A) expended by the United States, for
2 each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014, to ex-
3 amine or analyze cyanobacteria or address pub-
4 lic health concerns related to harmful algal
5 blooms; and

6 (B) that includes the specific purpose for
7 which the funds were made available, the law
8 under which the funds were authorized, and the
9 Federal agency that received or spent the
10 funds; and

11 (2) recommended steps to reduce any duplica-
12 tion, and improve interagency coordination, of such
13 expenditures.